

PERSONAL

I hope that no one seeing Tim Brighouse's article in *The TES* two weeks ago (March 16), "16-plus: a change for the worse", will have thought it contained another run-through of his arguments against a common examination, convincing though those arguments may be. In fact, it was far more radical stuff. He himself suggested that what he was looking for would constitute a Copernican Revolution in the secondary schools. And I think he is right.

Others of course, have used the analogy of Copernicus, notably the philosopher Kant. "Failing of satisfactory progress in explaining the movements of the heavenly bodies on the supposition that they all revolved round the spectator, Copernicus tried whether he might not have better success if he made the spectator to revolve and the stars to remain at rest". And so Kant proceeded to argue that instead of trying to show how our knowledge of the world could fit the objects, the objects must be made to fit the knowledge we bring to bear on them. If objects in the world seem fixed and rule-governed, it is we who do the fixing and invent the rules.

Tim Brighouse, picking up a proposal perhaps inadvertently made by Sir Keith, has likewise suggested that

we do not take the examination system as given, to which we have to struggle to adapt our pupils, but that we think first of the pupils with their various abilities and talents, and make the examination system fit them. This would mean the end of the great monolithic blocks of examinations at the end of years five and seven. It would mean instead that various subjects or parts of subjects could be tested at various stages of a student's career, according to his readiness for the test, and even after he had left school.

This concept has the basic simplicity of all revolutionary thoughts. It could combine with the much-needed reform of the curriculum, with subjects divided into practical and theoretical rather than into arts and sciences; and it would combine, as Brighouse himself suggests, with graded tests, to be taken at different times. There is no reason why each curricular module should not be tested at various grades. In most cases a pupil would need seven years to reach the top grade in a reasonable spread of subjects; but he might have reached the top grade much sooner in some subjects, not at all in others. The grades could be geared to roughly a year's work, as grades in music examinations are. But



Mary Warnock

neither age nor the time taken to prepare for the test would be criterion for entry.

This simple concept does not constitute an argument against a single system of examinations at 16-plus. Like all revolutionary solutions, it shows that the original question was wrong: we shouldn't ask whether to have one system of 16-plus examinations or two, but whether to have any

system at all. And what can be argued about the 16-plus age group can be argued just as well about the 18-plus.

There are, of course, two major sets of difficulties, one within school, the other outside. Both can be overcome with will and determination and a bit of seed-money for trials and experiments. The in-school difficulty is the more serious. A new concept of teaching would need to be accepted, a concept in some ways more like primary than secondary school teaching, where a single room would contain numbers of people of different ages working at roughly, but not exactly, the same things, helped, but not dictated to, by their teachers.

The notion that everybody of 12 works alongside one another, in all the subjects, until some drop out, or sink without trace, while the teacher tries to neglect none of the class, whatever their abilities - this notion would disappear. A syllabus would no longer have to be devised to fall more or less in the middle, between the very quick and the very slow, the very advanced and the very backward. For every pupil in the school, there would be some work going on somewhere fitted to their stage in a subject. And such apparently chaotic teaching arrangements could be vastly simplified by the

use of good computer programs, by means of which, to a certain extent, pupils could monitor their own progress, and seek help when they needed it.

Of course, such a system would not eliminate the lazy or feckless student, but at least every student would have a clear and limited goal ahead of him, and some incentive to work.

The external difficulty is with the universities, the brooding presence which, as things are, determines the content of the school curriculum, certainly from the fourth year onwards. It is notoriously hard to get universities to change; and their tradition in the past has been to concentrate on their own curricula, pretending that this in no way affects what happens in school. Education in the broader sense has been something they do not much care for; the demands of each specific subject are still paramount.

Now that the universities themselves are involved in a debate (albeit a pretty phoney one) about their own purposes and priorities, perhaps they can be induced to see themselves in a wider context than of old. If some university revolutionaries could be found to talk to school revolutionaries like Tim Brighouse, then perhaps a way could be found to initiate change.

DIARY



Sarah Tisdall: passed the practical part of the BA (Official Secrets) course with flying colours.

tion and art classes, she should complete her education in Official Secrets.

I am afraid she will be prevented from speaking to her teachers there again after she's left (Miss Kinsley has banned that sort of activity), but that in itself will be an educational insight into the sort of Home Office psychology that dreamt up the Official Secrets Act

Recipe for micro equality

Why do girls not become addicted to computers as readily as boys? How do you stop the boys monopolizing all the hardware in school? The conference on "Information Technology and the Education of Girls" last week at South Bank Polytechnic, jointly organized with the Equal Opportunities Commission and ILEA, came to no firm conclusions, in spite of a galaxy of talent which included Paul Channon MP, Frances Morrell, Baroness Platt, the EOC chair, Billie the lunch break, a consensus developed that it had something to do with all those violent, male-oriented, Space Invader, shoot-out games which dominate the home computer market.

Why not recipe games? Get it right or the soufflé goes flat. Or dressmaking ones? The clothes either stay on or fall off. Or encouraging girls to write their poetry on a word processor, calling up a computerized *Thesaurus* from time to time for inspiration?

I know it all sounds a bit uncertainly sexist; but then the market has already prescribed a violent, male agenda for youngsters playing with computers and something should be done to break it.

Christopher Price

Prison no bar to Sarah Tisdall's political education

I have never been to St Dunstan's Abbey Girls' School in Plymouth. (I thought I'd start off with where I haven't been, for a change.) But I feel every pupil in this worthy academy can walk just a little taller from this day forth because of their most famous Old Girl, Sarah Tisdall.

She has given us all an important lesson in political education - to wit that oppressive Acts of Parliament like the Official Secrets Act are not calculated to catch journalists, old Etonians or spies (as Jonathan Aitken MP, the late Sir Anthony Blunt, Mr Ducan Campbell of the *New Statesman* and Mr Peter Preston, the editor of *The Guardian* will - in alphabetical order - testify) but to frighten girls like her.

She has already passed Pt 1, the practical part of the BA (Official

Secrets) course which she has unwittingly begun, with flying colours. She wasn't frightened; and she shared some useful information with her fellow humans about cruise missiles and the future of mankind.

The Education Department of Holloway Prison, where she is starting Part 2, is an institution she'll find a little different from her two previous ones (St Dunstan's and Newcastle Polytechnic, where she had a brief stab at being a librarian). It's an academy with which readers of this column will be familiar. I am told that the dispute between the governor, Miss Joyce Kinsley, and the teachers there - on which I reported (January 27) - is now simmering down and that if (a big "if") the prison officers are currently deigning to escort prisoners to their educa-

Yours frustratedly

It is right that education should loom large in this Democracy Week, dedicated to keep ratecapping at bay and maintain the quality of education. Stewart Ranson of the Institute of Local Government Studies at Birmingham University has, with two academic colleagues, produced a timely pamphlet, "Capping Opportunity: Education and the Rates Bill" (LGCU Publications, 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1, 75p) spelling out just what could happen to schools if the Rates Bill becomes law in the summer.

More privatization, a worse deal for schools without affluent parents, reduced capitulation and a tightening of the bond between the curriculum and a "layover-labour market".

It is happening already in those authorities, like Herefordshire and Worcestershire, which are eager to anticipate orders. When I chaired the House of Commons Select Committee, I thought we had developed a system of open, annual reports, which exposed those local authorities where low standards were causing "concern" to HMIs; and which forced Sir Keith Joseph, who is enjoined by the law to "Promote the Education of the People of England and Wales", at least to make some comment on the situation. I am sad to report that the system has broken down, through ministerial failure to answer letters. To recap very

briefly on the Hereford/Worcester saga:

July 83: HMIs say H/W causing concern.

November 83: Local liberal councillors write and ask Sir K if he agrees with his inspectors.

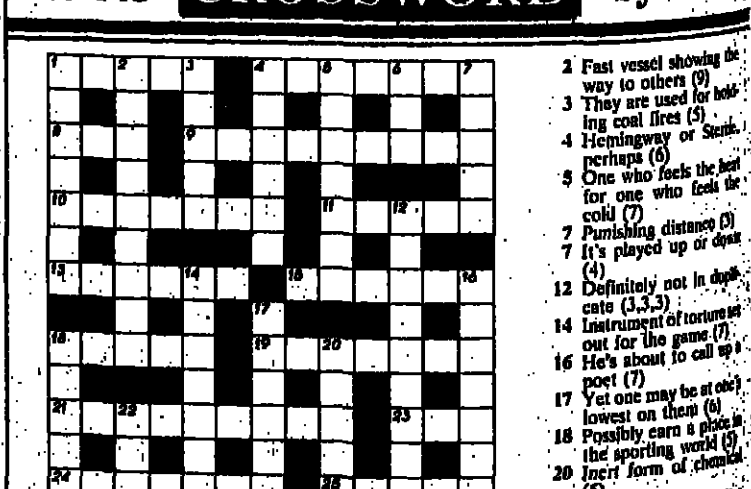
Early March 84: Enquiries at the DES re. a reply reveal an oversight. "Very sorry. The reply had been mistakenly returned to the file. It will be put in the minister's box for signature."

Late March 84: Further enquiries. "Very sorry. The letter was put in the minister's box, but he wouldn't sign it."

Now I do have the utmost sympathy with DES functionaries who are required to draft these difficult letters, saying on the one hand, yes, the standards of staffing, books, and special schools are causing concern; but, on the other hand, no, the minister is not going to lift a finger because, actually, H/W are behaving just as the Government wish them to behave. They don't say it quite like this - they write it in a special code at which they are extremely adept and for which they are paid. I am sorry they did not get the Hereford-Worcester letter codified properly the first time, but they should have another go and try to do better.

Simply not answering letters is disconcerting. It cheats on the system, and, when, from time to time, the ombudsman is asked to investigate known instances of it, he can sometimes get quite rude about the Department con-

No145 CROSSWORD by Ruffus



- Across**
- 1 Bottle-openers and drinks in packs (5)
 - 2 Being safe in the end is guaranteed (7)
 - 3 Clump paper enjoyed by students (3)
 - 4 He tries to swindle with a business offer (9)
 - 5 Painters in dire straits (7)
 - 6 They may be used to make a wool (5)
 - 7 A wild horse on land (6)
 - 8 Note destroyer is not charged (6)
 - 9 Meat jelly made from a non-Eastern spice (5)
 - 10 For punishment the writer gets the cane, perhaps (7)
 - 11 A run to elench the match? (9)
 - 12 Low form of night-life (3)
 - 13 Checks, made by police (7)
 - 14 A record number of contestants in the field (5)
- Down**
- 1 Shaw's major character (7)
 - 2 Fast vessel showing the way to others (9)
 - 3 They are used for heating coal fires (5)
 - 4 Heavily armed, perhaps (7)
 - 5 One who feels the heat for one who feels the cold (7)
 - 6 Punishing distance (9)
 - 7 It's played up or down (5)
 - 8 Definitely not in duplicate (3,5,5)
 - 9 Instrument of torture used for the game (7)
 - 10 He's about to call up (5)
 - 11 Yet one may be at one's lowest on them (6)
 - 12 Possibly earn a place in the sports world (5)
 - 13 A word of chemistry (3)
 - 14 Blade used by a cat, perhaps (3)

Solutions to puzzle No. 144

Across: 1. BOTTLE-OPENERS, 2. SAFE, 3. CLUMP, 4. SWINDLE, 5. PAINTERS, 6. WOOL, 7. HORSE, 8. DESTROYER, 9. JELLY, 10. CANE, 11. ELLEN, 12. NIGHT-CLUB, 13. CHECKS, 14. CONTESTANTS.

Down: 1. SHAW, 2. SPEED, 3. RADIATORS, 4. ARMED, 5. HEAT, 6. DISTANCE, 7. UP/DOWN, 8. NOT IN DUPLICATE, 9. TORTURE, 10. CALL UP, 11. LOWEST, 12. SPORTS, 13. CHEMISTRY, 14. CAT BLADE.



Wayward perennial

I hear that the British Council has decided to blacklist (too controversial) David Bellamy as the chief guest for the Travel Awards on their 50th anniversary. He's the jolly, bearded television environmentalist who gets arrested defending wildfowl in the Antipodes. I hope his substitute, Lord Tonyandry, rejects any "Establishment" role. Now he's no longer Speaker, he can behave as scandalously as he likes.

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Staying on...

by Hilary Wilce

Monday was just a normal school day, according to the acting head of the Libyan school in London, Mr Ibrahim Tafari. The school, he said, was not political and last week's shootings and the siege of the Libyan People's Bureau were nothing to do with it whatsoever.

But his words were belied by the heavy police presence outside the school, by the many empty classrooms, and by the rank of gleaming Mercedes hastily dumped in the school car park by the departing diplomats.

According to Mr Tafari, the school, which takes children aged 6 to 18, normally has 437 pupils and deals with a further 400 Libyan children from other parts of Britain who take their exams in London. Most are the children of Libyans studying here.

Last week's exodus had taken 45 students and "a few" staff back to Tripoli, he said. However, there were no plans to close the school. There had been fears that because teaching staff had been registered with the bureau they might all have to leave, but the Foreign Office had given assurances this was not the case. And even if the number of Libyan pupils dropped, he said, numbers would be kept up by Egyptian, Algerian and Tunisian pupils.

However, staff at the school were far less optimistic. Mr Hadi Mohamed, a senior teacher, said all classes for six to eight-year-olds had closed down, and many pupils had failed to turn up for school.

He estimated that the normal roll

was about 370, but that fewer than 100 were now in school. The school would struggle on to the end of the Libyan school year, later this month, he said, but after that... an eloquent shrug.

The Jamahiriya School was set up in 1980 when the Inner London Education Authority sold the Libyans a bleak nineteenth century boys school, to the distinct unease of some well-heeled local residents.

Since then it has operated quietly, a stark and scruffy Middle Eastern school behind its English exterior, with no evidence of the learning resources that brighten British schools.

Some pupils' work adorns the walls, but this is swamped by the many portraits of Colonel Gaddafi and exhortations from his *Green Book* - "Representation is the falsification of democracy" and "No democracy without popular congresses".

Mr Tafari denies that pupils receive any political education other than a basic course in "culture and Islamic studies" and equates the Gaddafi portraits with the pictures of the Queen that hang in British schools.

As for recent political events, staff had been forbidden to talk about them with the children, he said. However, some classroom discussion had obviously taken place. Mr Mohamed said some pupils had been frightened by what had happened, and by the police who had searched some of them at the gates. Teachers had tried to explain things to them, but like their pupils they only knew what was on television, he said.

Pay claim deadlock amid restructuring talks
Future for salaries in the melting pot

by Mike Durham and Richard Garner

Both the short and long-term future of teachers' salaries are in confusion today after the breakdown of talks on this year's pay claim and increasing doubts about a new salary structure for the profession.

At teacher unions begin to draw up contingency plans for the possibility of extended strike action. Sir Keith Joseph appears to be publicly backing away from a commitment to early implementation of a new salary structure.

This year's pay talks broke down after three and a half hours of negotiations on Monday afternoon - when the employers refused to go to arbitration for the teachers' pay claim.

The teachers' pay claim was rejected by the employers as a sweener to the National Union of Teachers, whose annual conference last week showed that a majority of delegates favoured a flat-rate increase next year to help the lower paid.

However, that offer was rejected, and the employers withdrew for a few minutes before formally tabling a 4.5 per cent offer - in line with what has already been accepted by Scottish teachers and council manual workers.

It took the teachers' panel - which has a built-in NUT majority - 10 minutes to reject the offer unanimously. The NUT, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers and the Professional Association of Teachers - whose members

pledge never to go on strike - were in favour of rejecting it without any further discussion. Representatives of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association initially thought of withdrawing to consider it - but eventually threw their weight in with the majority.

Then the teachers' panel formally requested the management to agree to go to arbitration, which was refused. Mr Merdall gave a warning that even a 4.5 per cent offer would put the jobs of thousands of teachers up and down the country at risk, adding that it would have been dishonest of the management to agree to go to arbitration, as most authorities did not have enough money to pay for a 4.5 per cent increase let alone any more.

In his own authority, Hampshire, the county council had budgeted for a 3 per cent increase - and every percentage point agreed for further education.

Mr Merdall said he had no further comment to make about the ex-pupil who seems destined to haunt him. And he is not alone in not commenting. The correspondence which has given *The TES* letters column a rather different flavour of late is now closed.

Continued on page 5

Last word from the Boy himself

by David Lister

Boy George has rolled up the sleeves of his frock to put pen to paper and writes to *The TES* about his schooldays.

The world's most controversial pop star of the moment, not known to be a *TES* subscriber, this week entered the debate on his schooling for the first time (see letter, page 19) showing that whatever riches he has gained, he has lost none of his venom for the man who caned and expelled him.

Referring to his old headmaster at Elyham Green School and now the general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, he writes: "The only real power Peter Dawson wielded was because of the existence of corporal punishment and his visual similarity to a well-known dictator."

Philosophizing, he adds: "In Britain we do not encourage pupils to enjoy school, and Elyham Green was no exception."

Mr Dawson said he had no further comment to make about the ex-pupil who seems destined to haunt him.

And he is not alone in not commenting. The correspondence which has given *The TES* letters column a rather different flavour of late is now closed.

Schools cut off by switch to night-time broadcasts

by Gillian Macdonald

Switching Schools Radio broadcasts to the middle of the night has prevented large numbers of schools from receiving them.

An internal BBC document, causing considerable concern within the Corporation, reveals that only 51 per cent of UK secondary schools have the automatic timeswitches required to record night-time programmes. And a considerable number of the schools with timeswitches cannot record programmes because of restrictions such as fire precautions.

This means that of the 3,800 secondary schools that use Schools Radio, well over 950 - that is more than a quarter - have no direct access to education programmes going out at night.

The BBC began broadcasting certain secondary schools programmes after midnight on Radio 4 VHF last September. These latest figures have been revealed by the School Broadcasting Council's statistical survey of



audience figures in the autumn term, but the BBC has no plans to make them public until the summer.

The Corporation set up a "safety net" to help schools with initial recording problems. This is the BBC Radio Shop at Clwyd which will supply schools with copies of the programmes - but usually at a cost of at least £4.00 per tape. As tapes may carry two programmes, this could come to £20.00 for a series of 10 programmes.

This is a considerable sum but schools are obliged to pay it if they have not invested £25 - £70 on timeswitches that comply with safety regulations.

A new cable channel for pre-school and primary children is due to open by October. It will broadcast every weekday morning from 7.00 to 11.00.

Thames Cable and Satellite Services Ltd, as it is to be called, is the latest joint venture by Thames Television and independent companies, Thorn-EMI and BFT (Radiovision). In addition to transmitting between 40 and 50 hours of original programmes in the first year, the channel will show repeats of programmes that went out before the children were born.

THIS WEEK

- COMMENT: PRIMARY
- NOTICEBOARD
- SCHOOL TO WORK
- OVERSEAS NEWS
- LETTERS
- PERSONAL
- PRICES/DIARY AND CROSSWORD
- CLASSIFIED

AS indicated

Nick Wood on the implications of AS levels for the sixth-form curriculum

Open debate

Sarah Bayliss reports on a major conference on open plan primary schools

Marking times

How exams have reflected changes in society

Platform

Tyrrill Burgess says the Government's about-face on the future of the ILEA has not yet gone far enough

Sunrise school

How the children of Japanese workers in this country keep up with their peers back home (picture)

Arts/Books

Robin Bus on post-nuclear fiction; John Weightman on scientists as philosophers; Nick Tucker, Bob Hudson and Jessica Sarsa on childhood through the ages; Jenny Pearson on National Tell a Story Week; John James on *Animal Farm* at the National Theatre; children's literature; Literary competition; Maths textbooks

Resources/Software/Media

Bill Hicks at the Audio-Visual '84 exhibition; Jacquetta Magarry on a new approach to software and the Computer Concepts Graphics ROM 29-32 EXTRA English: rhetoric and philosophy; plea for poetry; the state of Eng Lit primary; creativity and new A-level syllabuses

Supplements for the sixth

The crucial question about adding an intermediate level to A level examinations was always whether this could fulfil the declared aim of broadening the sixth-form curriculum, without devaluing its own currency when it came to university admission.

In a sense this has been inherent in the background to the whole sixth-form curriculum and examinations debate, which has been going on at least since 1966, but the dilemma was crystallized when the Schools Council - in response to an invitation in 1979 from the then Secretary of State for Education, Mr Mark Carlisle - came up with the original I level proposal, which it saw both "as a means of broadening the curriculum followed by some traditional sixth-formers and also of helping to meet the needs of some pupils of lower ability than those who have traditionally attempted A level courses."

The initial response from Mr Carlisle that it was doubtful whether a single examination could meet the needs both of the "new" sixth, who were likely to find A levels too demanding, and of their more academic contemporaries who were over-specializing on the competitive route to higher education, foreshadowed the subsequent reaction from the universities.

While prepared to make all the right noises about a broader sixth-form education, few gave a more specific blessing to any new exam that might be seen to lower academic standards (they were prepared to spar on the possibility of a lengthened university course). This benevolently-veiled response became discernibly more equivocal in the replies to Sir Peter Swinnerton Dyer's University Grants Committee letter.

In answer to the question about reduction of specialization in the sixth-form, for example, Oxford University conceded that "some broadening of the sixth-form curriculum is now urgently required", but went on to express apprehension about the possible consequences: "There is, in the opinion of those experienced in the realities of university admissions, a risk that the more specialized pattern would be preferred (*de facto*, not *de jure*) and that the broader pattern of studies would be seen as appropriate mainly to the less academic among sixth-form pupils." The replies from Salford and Lancaster Universities also revealed specific doubts.

Altogether, it was becoming clearer that if Sir Keith Joseph was to pursue his twin aims of ameliorating sixth-form over-specialization, while pushing up quality and standards, the ivory towers would not be breached unless it was made crystal clear that schools would not be able to hijack the new I levels to serve the old CBE brigade.

The new AS level proposals published by the Education Secretary this week (page 5) do just that. First of all, there has been the surprise and apparently last-minute decision to change the name. There is to be no question of anything intermediate about the nature, timing, quality or value of the new examination. It will be designed only for sixth-formers judged capable of handling existing advanced level exams, but will be supplementary to them.

The trick is to perform the delicate balancing act of persuading the universities that AS levels will be worth considering at the admission stage, while simultaneously persuading the schools and the brightest students that they are worth taking.

Probably rightly, the proposal document now put out for comment concentrates on weighting the balance towards academic acceptability. If, as Sir Keith hopes, the universities can be persuaded to make their offers through UCCA, explicitly dependent on AS levels in addition to A level demands, then there could be little doubt that they would be a must for anyone with higher education aspirations.

To achieve this aim, however, there is no doubt that Sir Keith would considerably increase the work-load of the high-flying academic sixth-former, and simultaneously accentuate his already divisive policies for the new sixth-form. The vocational road, via the equally new CPVE for the one-year sixth-former, would be even more firmly fenced off from the golden, but ever steeper, road to academic success. Sir Keith is not to be diverted at this stage by doubts about borderline cases, though many in the schools will be.

It may be that many schools will, in defiance of strictures about demanding standards, still be persuaded by parents to put unsuitable candidates in for the new AS levels, if they do materialize. Whether this will be feasible or likely to debase standards could depend on the sort of syllabuses that the exam boards and Secondary Examinations Council are able to

produce in the short time-scale envisaged. Indeed, it now looks, at least initially, as if many will simply be the existing syllabuses cut in half.

The thinking at the SEC seems to be that it is on the face of it possible to take half an A level at the same standard as the whole (for maths, for example, you could simply take statistics, or computing science). If a syllabus is content-based, in short, it should be possible to look at half the content, although the question might then arise of how far it retained the necessary intellectual challenge, or gave the student sufficient feel of the subject.

If we look at AS levels from the point of view of the sixth-former in search of wider choice, in fact, it seems likely that many would prefer a new syllabus designed for their needs (perhaps a modern language course with practical applications for the scientist, or an introduction to information technology for the arts student), rather than something else chopped down. It is not yet clear when that could be on offer.

Now can we be sure until the whole enterprise gets to UCCA stage whether admissions tutors will in practice be as enthusiastic about a "contrasting" AS as a "complementary" one. And will they be prepared to shut out a good scientist because he or she has flunked an arts AS? Will students duck contrasting subjects, just in case?

There are other major snags. Local authorities and schools are to be enjoined to introduce the AS courses within existing resources. Sir Keith hopes this can be achieved largely by packing AS students into existing A level groups, but in practice admits unequivocally that small sixth-forms unable to call on extra teachers will be at a serious disadvantage and may only be able to provide one or two, or no, AS levels.

He is, in effect, saying that he wants AS to happen, but admitting that not all schools will be able to produce the goods. The paper goes so far as to hint that a sixth-form or tertiary college might be better placed.

The most serious question, however, is whether this is what sixth-formers, employers or anybody else mean by broadening the curriculum. The whole thrust has been towards academic respectability and finding ways of getting the job done without spending any extra. But can you really broaden sixth-form studies just by piling on extra exams?

COMMENT

Spiral of ill-will

The failure of the teachers' pay talks can only be bad news for everyone concerned - a debacle not made any easier to accept by the belief that it might well have been avoided if the latest offer of 4.5 per cent had been made at a time when the teachers, like their colleagues in Scotland and in FE, would have been prepared to accept it. If that is so, the damaging industrial action and disruption into which the schools are now being swept ought to have been unnecessary. Where once bargaining and a measure of mutual respect might have combined with the future promise of new structures and conditions to secure the usual grudging agreement, a series of fumbled shots and dropped catches on both sides has set events off in a spiral of ill-will.

Now, though the compulsion to confrontation that characterizes the miners' strike was not there in Burnham at the beginning (and Meridale is no MacGregor) something of the same sort of bitter multiplier factor is at work.

The effect on the children caught up in it is already being felt, and it is already clear that there is sufficient solidarity across the teacher unions for conditions in the schools to deteriorate rapidly. It becomes increasingly difficult to see a way out now without arbitration and, however valid the I.A.S. protestations of financial constraints, they may find that what was once an undesirable option has now become inevitable.

Whatever inappropriate references the Education Secretary might make

to law of supply and demand, it cannot seriously be expected that the quality of teaching can be improved when the teaching force is accorded such scant respect that it is assumed that it can get on the cheap. This is a truth now widely accepted in the United States, where after years of bashing the state school systems, the general public is now prepared to pay more for quality.

Sadly, the obverse to this appears to be that, if you go on paying professional wage levels for long enough, teachers will in the end start to behave unprofessionally. Sir Keith now invokes that word, more in sorrow than in anger, but he and the local authority employers share an equal responsibility with the teachers for the future of the professional structure talks.

Primaries back in focus

The moving spotlight of political attention seems to be swinging back to primary schools, after several years focusing mainly on 14 to 19-year-olds. This week the House of Commons Select Committee on Education announced a "substantial" enquiry into primary education (page 8). The HMs have recently been beavering away on the primary terrain, following Sir Keith Joseph's ringing call at Sheffield for a primary curriculum with greater breadth, differentiation, relevance and balance.

With pupil numbers about to rise, primary is now the main focus of the initial teacher training effort. The new Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, with its Teaching



Quality White Paper, has the job of making sure that the initial training is relevant to classroom practice, and that teachers are real partners in the tutoring and assessment of students. University involvement in primary training is growing, with more primary PGCE courses; and this year two universities, Warwick and Exeter, are appointing professors of primary education.

All this could and should be good for primary schools and teaching. The move for a broader curriculum at the upper primary stage is welcome; there

can be little argument about the desirability of more science, more depth in environmental studies, and more systematic attention to craft and design. If politicians - both local and national - want to set up guidelines, it should become more difficult for them to duck the resource implications.

The danger is that after years of relative political neglect (interrupted only by the unsubstantiated and demoralizing criticism at the time of the Great Debate) primary teachers will allow themselves to be pushed away from the integrated, experience-based methods they believe in, and driven into more specialized subject- and content-based approaches. Already, the main route to promotion in primaries is to become a subject specialist.

Last week's conference on open-plan schools (page 8) was a good reminder of what can happen when outsiders try to impose new methods of working on teachers, without preparation or discussion of their implications. Genuine improvement in primary practice depends on giving teacher the time and support needed to tackle pedagogic questions such as those raised by Mrs Joan Dean, Professor Maurice Galtton and Mr Norman Thomas at the conference, as well as improving the breadth and balance of the primary curriculum.

...no comment

Service	1983/84	1984/85	Variations
Education - Teachers and lecturers	4,160	4,117	-38
Non-teaching staff	3,080	3,122	+42

From the *Manning* table in *Surrey* County Council's *Annual Report 1984*

Second opinion

A response to be eradicated

The Assessment of Performance Unit is still, it seems, eagerly awaiting reactions to the report which it published last September under the temporary title *Aesthetic Development*. Last Friday, at London University's Institute of Education, the National Association for Education in the Arts discussed the report at length, and decided to formulate an official response, for Sir Keith Joseph's edition, as rapidly as possible.

Having sat in on their debate, I suspect that that response will be cautiously argumentative but basically respectful: they may have taken issue from Sir Keith's recent assertion that the arts should be part of the curriculum, but they still have a leaguered air. I sympathize with their fears - some things are more "one than others, and old philistines are hard - but I suggest that they would be much more good by treating the publication as Dorothy Parker once treated a book she had been asked to review. *Aesthetic Development*, on the whole, is a good book, but it is a little too much like a collection of essays, rather than a book which is a single, coherent, and sensitive response to the needs of teachers? How can we continue to attract young teachers of quality into the service when their level of pay does not even keep up with inflation?

To do the association justice, more than one speaker wanted to treat it as just that manner. "Education in the arts should consist largely in endorsing unsupported idiosyncratic responses, and in encouraging a progressively enlightened attention to objective features of the works considered and created": this extraordinary pronouncement, absolutely typical of the whole, got the drubbing it deserved.

I did an equally extraordinary paragraph about some children's response to Bach (whom they preferred to pop music even though they "were incapable of informed judgments about the music, or of recognizing subtleties"). The document was castigated for being too general, too culture-biased, too reductive, and too prescriptive. Those of its signatories who were present agreed that there were "errors" and "misjudgments", but defended themselves by saying that they had had to put it together in haste and under strong pressure from the unit.

They were, I suggest, not nearly apologetic enough. After its questionable initial distinction between "aesthetic" and "artistic" the document swoops straight into a "philosophical" comparison between artistic and scientific thought, debating both in a separate (and of course unsuccessful) attempt to prove that pupils' progress can be objectively assessed in the former just as satisfactorily as in the latter. Space forbids my quoting chapter and verse, but not even the most casual reader could fail to note the crudeness and sloppiness of the thought (and the writing), nor the consistent condescension in the tone. There are two or three simple and sensible ideas rattling around at the end, enmeshed with hideous and irrelevant jargon.

The document ends with the platitudinous suggestion that "more work of a pilot nature needs to be undertaken", but the APU has now decided against appointing professional assessment and curriculum development officers, and is clearly out of their depth in this area. External exams may be rough and ready measures, but they have proved that arts subjects are not the province of objective assessment. Individual arts teachers know this too, but their admittedly often over-subjective way. There is certainly room for more research, but there is nothing to build on here.

Michael Church

Michael Church is Art Editor of *The Times*.

Sir Keith refuses to break pay deadlock - lengthy strike likely

Authorities hold out against rising clamour for arbitration

Unions prepare to dig in

Teachers' leaders are bracing themselves for prolonged and escalating strike action this term.

Mr Doug McAvoy, acting general secretary of the National Union of Teachers and leader of the teachers' side during negotiations, said: "I really see this particular deadlock as a watershed as far as teachers' salaries are concerned."

And Mr David Hart, general secretary of the 22,500-strong National Association of Head Teachers, which has told its members to do nothing to undermine the effectiveness of the teachers' action, said he could foresee public examinations being disrupted if attitudes hardened over the next couple of weeks.

Both the main teachers' unions, the NUT and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, have strike funds - which will allow any of their members involved in selective strike action during the next few weeks to be fully paid by the unions. The NAS/UWT's fund stands at £1.5m - while the NUT has substantially more.

Indeed, both unions took steps in private sessions at their annual conferences last week to protect their funds in the event of a prolonged dispute.

Delegates at the NUT conference defeated a move to give the union's executive powers to transfer up to £250,000 from the strike fund to buy new equipment over the next 12 months - while the NAS/UWT's annual conference empowered its executive to raise subscriptions by £3 next year if it became necessary.

At present, the NUT is committed to a one-day strike next Wednesday - with the prospect of further extended strike action later.

Leaders of the NAS/UWT are planning "guerrilla" tactics similar to those they employed in a dispute with Durham County Council last year. They plan to concentrate on calling out one and a half teachers - who have maximum classroom contact time - on the grounds that it will be cheaper to pay their wages and more effective in terms of closing schools.

Pressure for the teachers' pay claim to be referred to arbitration grew this week when the leader of the largest of the 104 local education authorities in England and Wales joined forces with Labour's education spokesman and all six teacher unions in demanding this step.

Mrs Frances Morrell, leader of the Inner London Education Authority, has written to Sir Keith Joseph urging him to support arbitration before it is too late.

She said: "Surely he would agree that the initial demand for a settlement below a rate of inflation - in other words, a cut in teachers' living standards - was provocative and insensitive to the needs of teachers? How can we continue to attract young teachers of quality into the service when their level of pay does not even keep up with inflation?"

All the unions represented on the teachers' panel of the Burnham committee, which negotiates pay, unanimously backed a call for the claim to be referred to arbitration.

Their representatives are the National Association of Teachers, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, the National Association of Head Teachers, the Secondary Heads Association and the Professional Association of Teachers.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the NUT, hoped the I.A.S. would "appreciate very quickly" the need to go to arbitration and so take the heat out of the dispute.

Before Monday's breakdown of talks, two other I.A.S. - Sheffield and Tameside - also called on the Burnham committee's panel to either increase their offer or refer the dispute to arbitration if that failed.

Salaries in the melting pot

Continued from page 1
large point agreed above that would mean that the authority had to find an extra £1.7m.

Mr Doug McAvoy, acting teachers' panel leader, said that 4.5 per cent was "never an acceptable basis for an agreement", since it was less than the rise in average earnings (7.2 per cent) and less than white-collar settlements in recent months (only 0.2 per cent of the 1.4 million white-collar workers who have settled in the past three months had received less than 5 per cent).

In a hint on the future of the salary structure talks Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, said this week: "My willingness to support any such agreement would depend on the degree to which it would be to guarantee a watertight system of professional assessment and curriculum development, and the consequences of assessment."

"In as much as any such judgment could be given to the degree to which professional behaviour such as strikes or disruption cannot be helpful."

Just as worrying to some local education authorities was Sir Keith's plan to hold a meeting with them last week for a pilot teacher-assessment scheme.

Broader agreement on a new salary structure needs to be reached by June for the 1985-86 financial year, he said. The time for a full-scale pilot project, it

is argued, might rule out agreement in time.

Sir Keith suggested using some of the money made available to I.A.S. under the Grants and Awards Act to promote the pilot study, but did not give any indication of how long it would take or which authorities would be invited to participate.

Mr Bob Morris, education secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said afterwards: "Some of us got the firm impression that the Secretary of State was talking about proper evaluation and discussion - not something that could be got off the ground easily. I believe that was the view of most I.A.S. representatives."

"Sir Keith seemed to be signalling that pay restructuring was not necessarily something he could convince his Cabinet colleagues to accept in June," Mr Morris added. "If there is to be a successful negotiation in time for next year, the basics have to be agreed in principle by the summer break. I don't see how we can reconcile a proper pilot study with that."

"The only way out would be to first formalize, then universalize existing good, but experimental schemes. Then it would still be possible to set up a new Burnham package next year."

Among teaching unions, there was also concern about the implications of Sir Keith's proposals. Mr Doug McAvoy, NUT acting general secretary, said he would throw a question mark over the pay restructuring package and could show that I.A.S. and the Government had "only ever seen the whole exercise as worsening teachers' conditions of employment".

NEWS

Jobs boycott urged

The 76,000-strong college lecturers' union NATFHE is urging members not to apply for jobs advertised in *Gwent*.

And lecturers in the country's six colleges are threatening strike action over the advertisement for their jobs which appears in this week's *TES*. The dispute arose when the education authority offered new contracts to lecturers 1 and 2 with increased class

contact hours from September 1. More than 300 contracts were returned unsigned by the closing date of April 19.

NATFHE has also asked *Gwent* members not to take part in interviewing replacement staff. It has placed notices in *The TES* and *THES* asking anyone thinking of applying for a job in *Gwent* to contact its headquarters first.

Proposed FE pay scales

The further education proposed pay scales for 1984 which appeared on page 8 of last week's *TES* should have had the word "agriculture" at the top of the second column, indicating that the pay

scales given for principals and vice principals applied only in agricultural colleges. Scales for principals and vice principals of other colleges appear below.

Vice Principal		Old		New	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
1	11673	12612	12141	13116	
2	12784	13722	13296	14271	
3	13989	14928	14550	15525	
4	15244	16200	15876	16848	
5	16443	17488	17160	18048	
6	17523	18462	18263	19200	
7	18557	19599	19404	20382	
8	19683	20514	20469	21336	
9	20700	21537	21528	22398	
10	21558	22395	22419	23292	
11	22419	23256	23316	24186	
12	23277	24117	24207	25080	
Principal		Old		New	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
1	13483	14802	14229	15393	
2	15072	16194	15675	16842	
3	16506	17649	17166	18354	
4	18141	19259	18867	20028	
5	19548	20544	20331	21366	
6	20862	21864	21696	22740	
7	21903	22905	22779	23820	
8	23013	24012	23934	24972	
9	24018	25023	24978	26025	
10	25053	26045	26055	27087	
11	26292	27303	27345	28395	
12	27540	28563	28641	29706	

Architect of CSE dies

Mr Robert Beloe, the former chief education officer of Surrey who is generally regarded as having masterminded the introduction of the CSE examination, died last week aged 78. The Committee on Secondary School Examinations other than GCE, set up in 1958 under his chairmanship, soon became known as the Beloe Committee. Its report resulted in the setting up of the CSE.

In 1959 Mr Beloe left the education service to become Lay Secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

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Pointless proposals still on the agenda

Common sense and Sir Keith Joseph triumphed when the Cabinet decided that the members of the new Inner London Education Authority should be directly elected. What matters now is that the residual muddles should also be excluded from the forthcoming legislation.

These were the subject of a consultative letter sent out last November from the Department of Education and Science (responses were due by the end of January) and decisions have still to be made on them. The letter said that the Government's object was to increase "the individual involvement of each borough in the arrangements for education in its area" - though as the Secretary of State confirmed in his announcement there was no question of devolving to the boroughs any part of the ILEA's functions.

Instead, the letter proposed new arrangements for consultation and for the appointment of school governors. Briefly, the authority was to be given a statutory duty to consult with each borough formally "at least once a term and at such other times as the borough concerned may reasonably request".

Consultation was to be about the authority's budget, on any proposal to change the character of, enlarge, or close existing schools, or to establish new ones, and for "discussion of broad policy initiatives" of the authority and of the performance of the system as a whole.

The proposed legislation would also "enable the boroughs to assume the major role" in appointing the governors of county and voluntary schools now appointed by the ILEA. It envisaged that three-quarters of these "local authority" governors should be appointed by the boroughs (the "minor authorities") and one-quarter by the authority.

The chief characteristic of these proposals was their pointlessness. Nowhere in the letter was it suggested that

they would effect any improvement in education or administration in inner London. It was not claimed that the authority would be better informed, or more efficient, or financially more responsible, as an outcome of the statutory consultation. There was no hint of what the consequences of the consultation were expected to be.

Nor was it asserted that new ways of appointing governors would improve the performance of governing bodies, let alone affect the experience of students, parents and teachers. The changes were proposed for their own sake, or at best as a means of "involving the boroughs". It was not explained how the "involvement" of local authorities with no responsibility for education would improve the performance of an authority with such a responsibility.

The important thing is that public authorities should consult the public, and in the past the ILEA has consulted indefatigably. The future authority, however, is meant to consult with other authorities: it would be holding 13 meetings every term (at least) with its neighbouring authorities. It is hard to imagine a more useless set of arrangements, or one more likely to distance the authority from the people it is meant to serve.

The principle of democratic local government should be clear. An authority should have to balance the demand for services in its area with the local readiness to pay for them. It should be directly accountable to the public, and it should consult with the public directly. The Government's proposals undermine this by intruding a statutory requirement to consult, not the public, but other authorities on budgets, organization and policy. A private world is to be created in which representatives endlessly talk to one another.

Of course, a directly-elected ILEA might well consult the boroughs when making proposals which affected borough services, such as housing or social service, or as a courtesy when

setting its precept. Indeed, the old ILEA has been in the habit of consulting in both these ways. But why a statutory obligation to consult? The DES letter does not say what is to be gained by it.

What is to be done if, after consultation, the ILEA and a borough disagree? On past experience one would expect the borough to claim that the consultation was not "real". A dispute will be created which may last for years, the authority of the responsible body the ILEA will be undermined, and the borough increasingly frustrated. It is a recipe for bad administration.

The subjects of statutory consultation are equally irrational. For example, the draft budget of the authority is meant to go first to the boroughs, who will be able to make representations on

it, but this is to intrude the views of one public authority, not responsible for a service, into the deliberations of another public authority which is. The timetable for estimates is already very tight, partly because of the Government's sluggishness in announcing grant arrangements. It will become even tighter.

If what is needed is a way of balancing demand and provision for education against demand and provision for other services, then the obvious solution is a single all-purpose authority. Consultation is no substitute and only adds unnecessary comment from consultation about it with authorities which have no responsibility for education.

This is the essence of the objection to the Government's proposals on consultation. They will have the effect of enhancing committees and committee men and will inhibit the direct relationship which a public authority ought to have with the public.

The proposals on school governors are objectionable for similar reasons. In recent years there have been welcome moves to reduce the proportion of party appointments and to increase the numbers of parents, teachers and

Although the Government has now decided on direct elections for the ILEA, it is still considering ways of handing more power over education to the boroughs. Tyrrell Burgess analyses the possible effect of following through some of the proposals set out in the consultation exercise

independent people. This will be reversed by the Government's proposals. In many, perhaps most, places local authority governors are party governors. Often there is an explicit balance on each governing body, reflecting the political balance of the council.

In the new London arrangements, this will be unlikely. The majority parties in the boroughs will almost certainly take all of "their" places. The party battle in the capital will be imported into the government of schools, even more than it was in the past. Where political control of the authority and the borough is different, the new arrangements will institutionalize party dispute at a point where it should be most avoided - in the government of individual schools.

There is also the question of the proper devolution of responsibility. It is right that a public authority should seek to devolve responsibility to those most affected by the decisions to be taken. It can do this, rationally, legally and with confidence, if it appoints the bodies to whom responsibilities are to be given. It is quite another matter to devolve responsibility to bodies which it does not appoint. To do so is to invite destruction of its own responsibilities and to encourage dispute.

In the event of such dispute, of course, the Secretary of State will be drawn in as an arbiter, under section 6 of the 1944 Education Act. The new proposals make such recourse to the Secretary of State more likely and will undermine the capacity of the authority to be a responsible education authority. It should be the object of administrative arrangements to avoid or accommodate dispute, not to provide occasion for it.

In short, the proposals on consultation and governing bodies are unnecessary and damaging and should thus be withdrawn.

Tyrrell Burgess is reader in the philosophy of social institutions at the North East London Polytechnic.

The principle of democratic local government should be clear. An authority should have to balance the demand for services in its area with the local readiness to pay for them. It should be directly accountable to the public, and it should consult with the public directly. The Government's proposals undermine this by intruding a statutory requirement to consult, not the public, but other authorities. A private world is to be created in which representatives endlessly talk to one another.

NEWS

Devon sparks new row over pressure group ban

by Mike Durham

Devon education authority, which two years ago caused a storm when it tried to ban CND from meeting on school premises, has sparked new protests with a decision to outlaw stalls run by campaigning pressure groups from a grammar school PTA fête.

Three groups - Shelter, the housing charity, the environmental campaign Greenpeace and the Anti-Vivisection League - have been told they would not be allowed to run stalls at the fête at Torquay Boys Grammar School in June. The fête has since been cancelled.

But the ban has been condemned as petty and unjustified and is to be challenged when the full council meets later this month. Mr David Morrish, Liberal education spokesman, said: "Banning these groups on the grounds that they are political is getting into a very dangerous area."

The three groups were on a list of nearly 100 local organizations invited to take part in a charity carnival by the school's parents' association. The association was running the event in schools grounds on the basis that it was taking 20 per cent of the proceeds. But some members of the parents' association were unhappy, saying that

including the pressure groups and raised it with the headmaster. The issue was subsequently referred to the school governors whose chairman, Mrs Vera Fraser-James, is deputy chairman of the education authority.

At its meeting last week the Conservative-run education authority voted to uphold the ban on the grounds that the parents' association was acting illegally by sub-letting to other groups. But critics of the decision see it as a means of banning contentious groups from schools.

Mr Ted Finney, Conservative education chairman, said: "The governors let the school free to the parents' association, but there was no allowance for sub-letting. The parents started bringing in other people, and that's not on."

"Otherwise the situation has not changed at all. If any of these organizations wanted to hire the school premises, they could apply to the governors in the ordinary way. If the governors think a group is contentious they can ask the education chairman for a ruling."

Actually Greenpeace appeals to no very much - what they did for the

But Devon's chief education officer Mr Joslyn Owen said the ruling was confusing. Since 1982, the authority has agreed to let its schools to political bodies at the full commercial rate, but to refer "contentious" lettings - when there might be a risk of damage to school property - to the CEO and education chairman for a decision.

"I have asked for clarification because if I was asked for guidance as to whether a group was likely to be contentious or not I could not be clear about it," he said.

Mr Morrish said: "If we are going to have school governors interpreting people like Greenpeace as dangerous left-wing activists, then we have reached a ridiculous situation. We'll have all sorts of governing bodies finding reasons for banning their premises in different groups."

Mr Morrish is to put a resolution to the council asking for confirmation that school accommodation should continue to be available for political lettings, except in the most unusual circumstances.



Joelyn Owen

will Secondary Heads Association is to debate the issue tonight.

Mr Brian Jeffs, parents' association chairman, claimed the parents were perfectly happy about the outcome. It was a democratic decision of the parents' association to raise the issue. We are not going to get involved in any political wrangling.

One of the banned stallholders, Mr Tony Clarke, local chairman of Shelter, said: "It comes down to the fact that we were considered a left-wing political group - but it goes without saying that we are not. Can they seriously imagine that a Shelter bottle

RE joins science

by Bert Lodge

Religion and science could combine in a single subject if research to be tested next term in a Birmingham school is successful.

This is the second stage in a project begun six months ago by the Farmington Institute of Christian Studies based in Oxford to produce a syllabus where each of the subjects, traditionally treated separately, is studied in relation to the other.

"Work cards on integrated science and religion will be on the desks of some nine-year-olds in Birmingham at the beginning of next term," Mr Derek Sankey, project director, said. "Much of the science material on the cards will be on astronomy - a neglected side of science which fascinates children."

The idea for the project grew out of a survey, *What they believe*, a publication last year by Mr Martin Rogers, head of Malvern College, providing a summary of the religious beliefs of 11 year-olds. Most saw science as a rival to religion. "This is just as relevant as thinking that science has not got all the answers so religion is required to complete the picture," Mr Sankey said.

The next stage of the project will be a textbook format to be tested in lower secondary schools next year.

Nick Wood reports on the Government's plans to introduce a new exam for sixth-formers

DES seeks support for sixth-form studies reform

The 16-year search for a less specialized format for sixth-form studies nearer fruition this week when the Government announced draft proposals for new advanced supplementary (AS) courses and exams to be taken alongside existing A levels.

Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, said he was "reasonably confident" that the proposals would win the support of schools and universities. If that proved to be the case, AS courses would begin in 1986 and first exams would be taken in 1988.

A consultative document issued by the Department of Education says the aim of the new exams is to broaden the curriculum for A level students without diluting academic standards.

Sixth-formers aiming for higher education would continue to pursue A level courses in subjects in which they eventually intended to specialize, while also following two-year AS courses in subjects that either complemented or contrasted with their chosen A level.

Courses leading to AS levels would have half the syllabus content of A levels but would demand the same academic standards. The DES envisages that they will require around half the teaching time allocated to A levels - perhaps four periods a week in contrast to six or eight.

Ministers distinguish between AS levels that complement a pupil's main

A levels and those that contrast with them. They say there are strong arguments for both approaches but lay stress on subject combinations that widen sixth-formers' academic horizons.

They say they would like "as many students specializing in science and mathematics as possible to continue during their A level years the systematic study of, for example, English, history or a foreign language; and as many students specializing in the arts and humanities as possible to continue the systematic study of, for example, mathematics, technology or one of the sciences".

The document gives guidance on how pupils can strike a balance between the two types of examination. Candidates now taking four A levels (one in four sixth-formers) might take three A levels and one AS level, those taking three A levels (one in two sixth-formers) might take two AS and one A level, and those taking two A levels might add one AS.

Sir Keith said that the DES had learnt from its last foray into this field over three years ago when it had referred to the possibility of introducing I levels for sixth-formers.

"We changed the I level name to AS because the 'I' stood for intermediate and we wanted to avoid the suggestion that the broadening of A levels would

be associated with a reduction in standards."

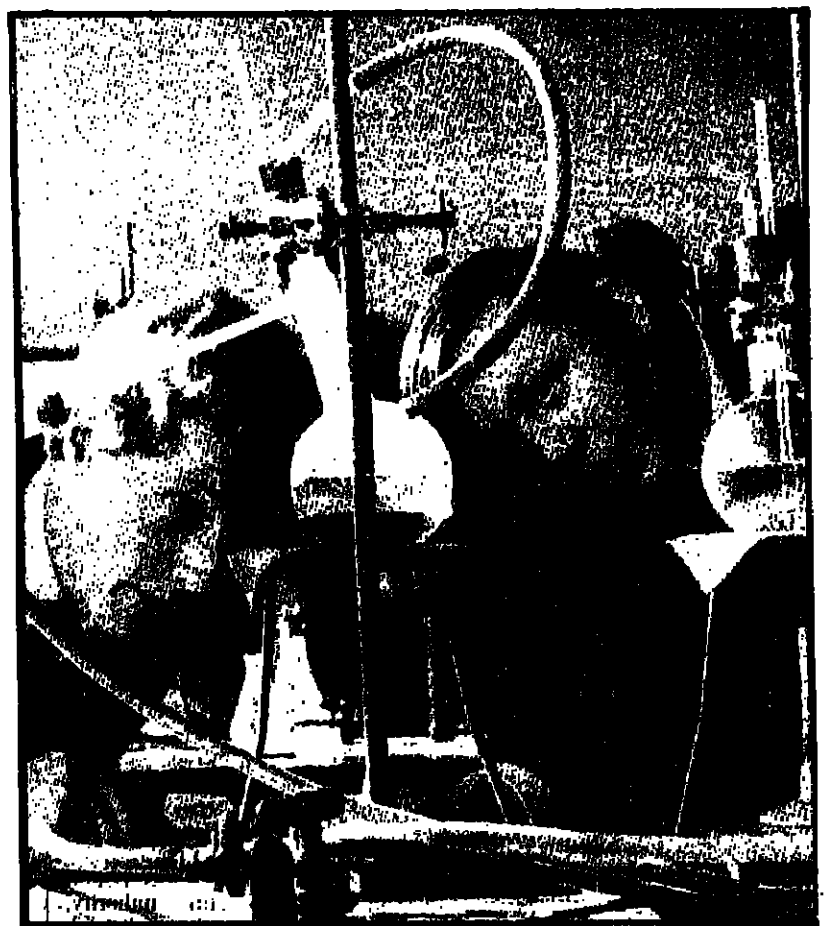
The new exam would not be a halfway house in either academic terms or in timing, he added. This point is strongly made in the document: "The difference in A and AS levels should lie in the amount of ground covered in the course, and its emphasis, not in the standards of performance expected of candidates."

The Education Secretary conceded that the new exam would push up educational costs, if only by requiring i.e.s to pay extra exam entry fees to the exam boards. But he was sceptical whether it would require schools to employ extra teachers and ruled out the possibility of any new money to fund the new exam.

"I doubt whether more teachers will be needed because sixth-forms above a certain size should be able to accommodate the extra demand within existing groups."

He agreed that not every school would be able to offer AS levels and that those with small sixth-forms would be "relatively disadvantaged".

The DES has set a deadline of next October for comments on the proposals. If these prove favourable, it will invite the GCE boards, in consultation with the Secondary Examinations Council, to draw up syllabuses.



A level science students would be encouraged to follow AS courses in the arts and humanities.

Initially, these would encompass mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, technology, English, French, German, history, geography, and general studies and would then be extended to

take in economics, computer sciences and design technology. In the long run AS levels would be available for any subject for which there was sufficient demand.

Supplementary benefit - but no extra cash

Public school headmasters were quick to support the new advanced supplementary exams, but representatives of maintained schools, while backing them in principle, warned they would be difficult to implement without extra cash and teachers.

Schools with small sixth-forms would struggle to offer extra courses and exams and the move represented a firm push in the direction of more sixth-form and tertiary colleges, the maintained sector said.

Mr David Emms, headmaster of Dulwich College and chairman of the Head Masters' Conference, who has long advocated a broadening of sixth-form courses, said it was "terrific news".

"I believe we have the most specialized secondary education system in the world and it has bred the two cultures - in the field of industry we have tended to produce scientists who cannot communicate and arts people who have not learnt enough science and statistics to give them access to areas of industrial management."

Mr Emms said he would be "urging" the boys at Dulwich to take one or two AS levels in subjects outside their chosen field of specialization.

Referring to recent public statements backing a broadening of sixth-form courses from Lord Flowers, chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the United Kingdom, and Dr David Ingram, chairman of the Standing Conference on University Entrance, Mr Emms said he was confident that sixth-formers would take into account AS grades when selecting applicants for higher education.

Mr Douglas McAvo, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, welcomed AS levels. But they meant a "firm push in the direction of sixth-form and tertiary colleges".

Mr Douglas McAvo, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, welcomed AS levels. But they meant a "firm push in the direction of sixth-form and tertiary colleges".

Attitudes of universities 'crucial'

by Patricia Santinelli

The responses of higher education institutions and, in particular, admission tutors, to government proposals for new sixth-form examinations will play a big part in any decision to introduce them, Sir Keith said this week.

"We want universities and colleges to specify an AS level as being important for entrance to the institution, this would make sure that such examinations are taken seriously," he said.

The consultative document makes it quite clear that the willingness of students to take AS level courses will depend crucially on the willingness of higher education bodies to indicate and reflect in their admission arrangements a preference for applicants who have pursued broader studies.

"It is clear that if the admission criteria for higher education were to remain exactly as now, A level students would have little incentive and indeed considerable disinclination to broaden their studies by taking AS level courses. Therefore the support of higher education bodies is of the greatest importance," the document says.

It envisages admission requirements being adapted to give preference to students who have two A levels and one AS level over those who have just two A levels, and to students with two A levels and three AS levels over those with three A levels, and so on.

Judging by the initial reaction of the Standing Conference for University Entrance, whose views are endorsed by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, and that of the Council for National Academic Awards, there appears to be greater support now in higher for a broadening of the sixth-form curriculum than ever before.

Dr Arthur Hearnson, speaking for SCUE, said that there was certainly more support for this in the universities than for any of the previous proposals. "We warmly welcome the paper, but this is not just support expressed by central bodies like SCUE and the CVCP."

"If you go back to 1980 and the paper on Intermediate Levels, our response was based on direct consultation with universities and there was not a single one opposed to the idea, although there were some reservations," he said.

such reservations, which had been mainly concerned with academic standards and whether I levels would actually be effective in broadening the curriculum.

Mr Graham Middleton for the CNA said the council broadly welcomed the proposal as offering an opportunity to widen the sixth-form curriculum without lowering the standard of A levels.

"We shall be prepared to amend our general entrance requirements to take account of the new exams. As far as specific entrance requirements are concerned, this will still depend on how much knowledge is required," he said.

He added that a possible pattern for the minimum requirement in, for example, non-science subjects would be one A-level and two AS levels.

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Parents opposed to 16-plus exams merger

by Biddy Passmore

More than seven out of 10 parents are opposed to a merger between O level and CSE, according to a survey in the latest issue of *Which*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association.

Parental opposition is almost exactly matched by support for the change among headteachers. Seven out of 10 secondary heads favour a single 16-plus exam system.

The findings come at a delicate moment, as Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, has promised to make a final decision on the merger by the end of June.

The survey covered a random sample of 1,000 parents of 16 to 21-year-olds (464 replied) and 500 secondary heads (195 replied), and all 105 local education authorities (two-thirds replied).

It found that just over three in 10 parents but only one in 10 heads thought that CSEs were a waste of time.

Which comments that parents will obviously prefer their children to take the exam with the highest status - O level - but says firmly it is "false" to say CSEs are a waste of time. It points out that Grade 1 is generally recognized as equal to an O level pass by universities and polytechnics, and that CSEs are entry requirements for many jobs and further education courses.

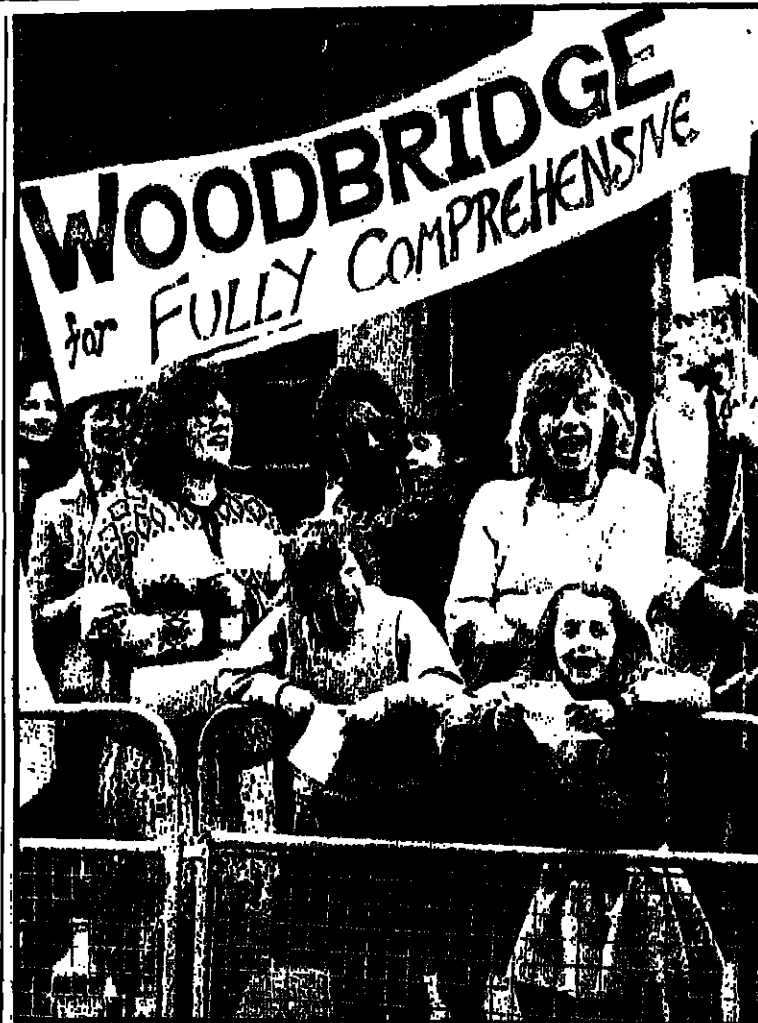
On the vexed question of parity of

standards, half the heads and parents who replied agreed that some exam boards set easier exams than others. And almost four out of five heads and seven out of ten parents agreed that it was easier to get good grades in some subjects than in others.

But, despite the "striking differences" in pass rates, the consumer watchdog finds it impossible to say whether some exams are easier than others. If the exam boards are doing their job of achieving equal standards, it says, higher pass rates in some boards or subjects simply mean they are assessing children of higher ability. "It's impossible for us to measure how successful they are."

Which adds, however, that the present diversity of boards, syllabuses and subjects makes the job of keeping standards consistent very difficult and can lead to uncertainty among employers and others as to what results mean.

The article also contains a run-down of the arguments for and against merging O levels and CSE and useful tips for parents on "how to make the most of the system". It reveals that just over half the heads who answered the survey took parental pressure into consideration when deciding which exams children should take (although other factors, such as teachers' advice, were most important).



Open-mouthed support for comprehensives from parents and children outside Woodbridge Town Hall in London on Monday, where councillors met to decide the fate of the borough's two remaining grammar schools. But inside, the Tory-controlled committee voted by 16 to 8 to keep the two schools - a watered-down version of the council's original plan to increase selection but still a long way from the fully comprehensive system favoured by half of local parents in a recent poll. Details of the reorganization scheme, such as which comprehensives should close and whether the intake to the boys' grammar should be cut, will be worked out tonight when the committee reconvenes.

Liberals angered by Sir Keith's silence

Liberals in Hereford and Worcester Association of Head Teachers in Brighton this month will debate in private a motion declaring that the 22,500-strong organization's viability depends on devising some kind of associate membership status for deputy heads.

In addition, another motion has been tabled, urging the union's national council (its executive) to "produce an attractive scheme for the inclusion of deputy heads in some form of membership as a matter of urgency". A third urges that they should be allowed full membership.

The debate will take place in the knowledge that the 3,500-strong Secondary Heads' Association re-

ported last month that its decision to admit deputies from the beginning of this year had led to 500 new members joining the association by the end of March.

The NAHT has debated this issue twice before during the past five years, but rejected the idea. Consultation with its members throughout the country showed that most were against it. However, this year's debate will be given additional impetus by the decision of the SHA to admit deputies and could well reopen the question - although Mr David Hart, general secretary of the NAHT, emphasized that the NAHT valued its good relations with other teachers' organizations - and had felt that improving the lot of deputies was best achieved by looking at their problems in cooperation with the other unions.

NAHT faces fresh calls to admit deputy heads

by Richard Garner

Britain's largest head teachers' union will be urged to consider admitting deputies to its ranks, just a few months after its main rival took the same decision.

The annual conference of the National Association of Head Teachers in Brighton this month will debate in private a motion declaring that the 22,500-strong organization's viability depends on devising some kind of associate membership status for deputy heads.

In addition, another motion has been tabled, urging the union's national council (its executive) to "produce an attractive scheme for the inclusion of deputy heads in some form of membership as a matter of urgency". A third urges that they should be allowed full membership.

The debate will take place in the knowledge that the 3,500-strong Secondary Heads' Association re-

Brooke threatens to legislate over tenure

by John O'Leary

Mr Peter Brooke, under secretary for higher education, has threatened to introduce legislation on tenure if no further progress is made by the universities towards its reform.

In an interview with the *Times Higher Education Supplement* he said he had concluded that it was unreasonable to expect the universities to make such a fundamental change themselves. The Government would not intervene until every other avenue had been explored but, if all else failed, legislation would be considered.

The natural time for such a decision would come next year when ministers would make final judgments on higher education policy in the wake of the current "great debate", Mr Brooke said. Civil servants have already done preliminary work on possible approaches.

"It might appear that this area has gone quiet in the last year, but I can assure you that the Government has not lost sight of the problem," said Mr Brooke. He accepted the need for academic freedom to be protected but could not allow tenure to be used as a defence against incompetence or insolvency. The employment Acts offered sufficient protection in these cases.

The only university to have inserted a redundancy clause into the contracts of all new staff is Reading.

£750,000 grant saves Gatehouse

by Sarah Bayliss

The future of the Gatehouse Learning Centre, a unique free-standing school in East London for children, including handicapped, aged 2½ to 16 years, has been secured by a grant worth over £750,000 from the Stanbury Family Charitable Trust.

The school, which was founded 30 years ago with the aim of integrating children with special needs, has 160 pupils and 21 full and part-time staff. Mr Callaghan O'Halloran, chairman of the board of trustees at the Gatehouse and a parent with three children, said the school had been in a "precarious position" for some time. The grant will be used to employ more

Christian rituals neglected

Most young churchgoers neglect the traditional daily ritual of believers, according to a survey of 1,300 teenage worshippers.

It shows that the Bible is read daily by only 5 per cent of 13 to 15-year-olds surveyed and in the same age group grace is said regularly by only 10 per cent and daily prayers by only 38 per cent.

The survey, carried out by Dr Leslie Francis of the Culham College Institute for Church Related Education, found over 30 per cent of Roman Catholic young people never read the Bible compared with 19 per cent of Free churchgoers and 19 per cent of Anglicans in the same age group.

The survey also found that regarding the key elements of Christianity: 13 per cent do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God; 23 per cent do not believe in the Resurrection; and 40 per cent do not believe in life after death.

The results appear in a book published yesterday, *Teenagers and the Church*, Collins, 187 Piccadilly, London W1 £7.95.



Mr David Tinsley, Birmingham's education officer for FE, is to become the next head of the Manpower Services Commission's Open Tech unit.

Mr Tinsley, who is 45, will take over as director of the Sheffield-based unit on August 1. He succeeds Dr George Tolley, who has been appointed head of the MSC's Quality Branch.

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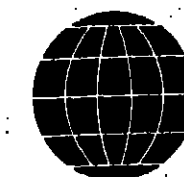
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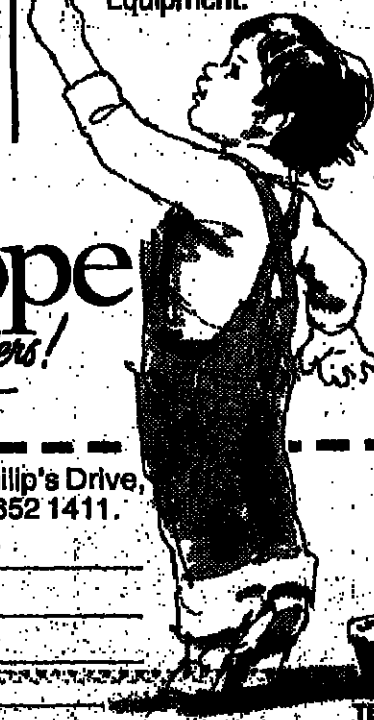
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Most girls still averse to A level mathematics

More than half of the girls on A level courses are still taking no maths or science subjects, according to the latest statistical bulletin from the DES. But the proportion has fallen from nearly two-thirds in 1974.

Boys have stuck firmly to their traditional areas of maths and science, with the proportion taking only those subjects staying at about 41-42 per cent and the number confining themselves to arts and social sciences dropping from 34.5 to 28 per cent between 1974 and 1983.

Pupils of both sexes have, however, turned increasingly to a combination of maths or science and other subjects at A level. The figure for girls taking a mixture of subjects rose from 21.5 to 28.6 per cent and for boys from 24.4 to 30.2 per cent over the same period.

That broader curriculum may soon be followed by more sixth-formers as a result of the Government's plan, announced this week, to introduce an AS level to be taken alongside A levels.

The figures, which cover schools in England only, relate to January 1983. They chart the continuing decline in the number of pupils in maintained and independent schools, from 8,501,500 in 1982 to 8,276,100 in 1983.

Since 1974, when primary school rolls began to fall, the number of primary pupils has declined by just over 1 million (nearly 22 per cent). The share of secondary pupils in grammar schools also continued to drop, from 3.3 to 3.1 per cent, while the proportion in comprehensive (including middle-deemed secondary) schools rose again, from 90 to 90.6 per cent.

Pupil numbers in independent schools fell by 4,600 to 516,500, but

this was a lower percentage drop (per cent) than in either the maintained primary or secondary sectors. After eight years in which the number of independent schools had steadily declined, four were opened in 1983.

But in the maintained sector, closures continued, with 266 primary schools disappearing during the year and 69 secondary schools - the largest fall since secondary rolls started to decline in 1979.

The total number of full-time equivalent qualified teachers in maintained nursery, primary and secondary schools fell by 7,000 to 397,200 in 1983. If student teachers and instructors included, the 1983 total was 414,000.

Because pupil numbers fell faster than the number of teachers, the overall pupil/teacher ratio in maintained schools improved slightly again, from 18.5 to 18.1 pupils per teacher.

It was still a lot less favourable than the ratio in independent schools, however, which improved over the year from 12.2 to 11.9.

There were only two "real" areas of growth: under-fives and over-16s. The number of pupils under five in maintained nursery and primary schools rose by 21,400 to 458,100 in 1983.

The proportion of under-five pupils in nursery schools and classes rose from 18.5 to 19.1 per cent, while the infant classes of primary schools has risen markedly - one-third to more than half - over the past five years.

Statistics of Schools in England, January 1983, Statistical Bulletin 61, available from the Statistics Branch, Department of Education and Science, York Road, London SE1 7TF.

Tory school policy 'a failure'

Only 7 per cent of electors think that the Conservative Government's education policy has been a success whereas 51 per cent think it has been a failure.

An Observer/Harris poll of a representative public sample of 998 electors showed that 51 per cent of people

believed that the Government had failed on education. But health has overtaken education as the Conservatives' biggest failure. In the poll, 63 per cent thought the health service policy had been a failure, compared with 44 per cent for education.

Sarah Bayliss reports on a national conference about the use of open plan primary schools

Drawbacks and merits of doing without walls

Most primary schools, whether in open plan buildings or not, still think of teaching in terms of classes of 30 children and have not taken advantage of flexible grouping and team teaching.

This was the message from Mrs Joan Dean, chief inspector for Surrey's education department, in an address last week to a conference on open plan primary schools.

She regretted that this was the case, not least because the standard class size of 30 pupils was not good for anything: "It's not good for discussion and it's not good for direct teaching; you can do the inspirational stuff with a lot more than 30 children."

Mrs Dean, who for 11 years was senior primary adviser in Berkshire, explained that during the 1960s when she was helping to establish open plan schools, the possibility of grouping children was seen as a major advantage. "Group size is known to make a difference to an activity and we should use this knowledge."

There was a need for more educational research to explore the effectiveness of certain group sizes; also, when should children learn on their own and when should individualized

learning be combined with group learning and class teaching?

Group flexibility and team teaching were common themes throughout the conference which had been organized by a team of Berkshire teachers, sponsored by Berkshire education authority, and held at Easthampstead Park educational centre to mark the 25th anniversary of the first open plan school built at Fimere in Oxfordshire.

In a speech titled "Yesterday's vision and today's practice", Mrs Dean said too much had been expected of teachers and with hindsight she was critical of how ill-prepared they were. "In the event I'm amazed how well the teachers coped."

If she was doing the same thing again she would mount a substantial in-service training programme for staff and preparation courses for parents. She welcomed the "rush" of primary curriculum documents now being produced in different I.E.A.s which might leave teachers "free to concentrate on how to help children to learn". It was too much to expect teachers to design the curriculum as well as to teach it.

She did not want to go as far as a nationally produced curriculum, but had observed some of its benefits in



The purpose has been to provide spaces for different educational activities - quiet as well as noisy, clean as well as dirty, large as well as small.

Sweden. "What we need is the kind of support that does nothing to hold back the really good school but does something to support the weak."

Discussing the relative success of open plan schools - as opposed to traditional "boxed" classrooms - she said some buildings were much more satisfactory now that falling rolls had reduced their intake.

In Berkshire, as elsewhere, cost limits imposed by the Department of Education plus the rising cost of building meant that an ideal plan was shrunk each time it was built. "The last of a series was nearly always unsatisfactory because we had too little space and the finishes were much cheaper than those on early models."

She now appreciated that one of the strongest feelings for teachers to overcome was their sense of territory. "It must be very difficult for some people to move from the cosiness of a self-contained classroom to the vulnerability of open space in which everything you do is observed by other adults."

Another important consideration for teachers and pupils, borne out in the Schools Council research on open plan schools, was the acoustics of buildings. The cost of sound insulation was high and many schools were built before its importance was recognized.

Mr David Medd, a retired architect and a founder member of the Department of Education's Architects and Building Branch Development Group, stressed that there was no substitute for architects learning about school design by observing schools at work.

In designing the Fimere School, he and his architect wife Mary had collaborated with teachers and watched how they improved an existing building. They had observed work benches in corridors, small groups painting or reading in cloakrooms, cupboards turned at right angles to form teaching bays and towel rails used for displaying children's work.

"These things revealed the 'first indication' that the traditional class-

room pattern might be challenged and that the traditional classroom unit was inadequate."

In a quite scathing passage, he said it was "most regrettable" that many local authorities had commissioned buildings, the purposes of which were not understood and for which teachers were unprepared.

Part of the confusion lay in the influence of American design which at the time was advocating a policy of "minimum constraints" - hence schools without walls.

In England his purpose had been to provide spaces for different educational activities - quiet as well as noisy, clean as well as dirty, large as well as small. "The principle is well established - but there are too many uncomfortable interpretations."

Professor Maurice Galton, from Leicester University's Department of Education, urged teachers to have confidence in open plan buildings. Much of the research from Australia and America had been negative and the ORACLE research which he had directed, had raised some doubts.

It was the appropriateness of teaching styles which mattered, not the kind of building which teachers worked in. "There's nothing inherently wrong with 'open' schools; we don't need to build walls to create classrooms again. The key thing is the way they're managed and having the confidence to know that when open schools work, they work very well."

He was convinced that all primary schools faced the same difficulties and they needed to tackle three issues urgently. The first was to close what he called the "perception gap" which many teachers, including university lecturers, had. "What one says one is doing and what one actually does are often very different things."

In the ORACLE project the most successful teachers were those who could describe closely what was happening in their classes. They were the teachers who recognized when a class

wasn't working well and quickly changed their tactics to make it work.

Secondly, schools should open up "negotiate" with pupils what they were going to study, with the intention of getting more challenging work done. He believed that because teachers wanted to be seen - by their colleagues, school governors and parents - to be running quiet, orderly classes, they gave pupils "safe" tasks, so that you begin to get disturbance.

Thirdly, teachers should try to prevent pupils acting in a "dependent" way. Very early on children develop a fear of failure when what they needed was an awareness that the learned by their mistakes. All the changes required a large measure of honesty among teachers and cooperation between teachers.

Professor Galton laid the blame for the inadequacies of schools squarely on the feet of teacher trainers, who weren't teaching students how to work together. He welcomed the Government initiative which was encouraging lecturers to go back into schools to help found placements in "nice but old rooms in middle-class areas".

During a forum session Mr J. Forward, retired adviser for primary education in Devon, said he had seen awful examples of unchallenging and so-called "open plan" schools. Children spent all their time in individual work programmes, with no teacher contact. "They're more to the box that contains the work cards than to their teachers."

In a concluding speech, Mr John Thomas, formerly the Chief Inspector for primary education, said the term "open-plan" was no indication of the kind of education going on in a school. But he urged teachers to make the best possible use of their buildings. "Even if it means putting the paint in the infants section, use the walls your way."

What worried him most about primary schools was their lack of pace. He was not advocating "more homework" of pupils - indeed he was in favour of children having more tasks to do. But they should be able to produce good quality work and the meant giving them time to alter and revise their work.

Addressing the audience of 120 mostly heads and teachers, he said: "At the end of an afternoon you should ask yourself 'What can my children do better now than they could at the start?'"

He wanted teachers to feel they had a range of methods to draw on. They must also be able to articulate what they were doing for other professionals. "If the architects haven't got the buildings right, it's because we've not said plainly enough what we want."

Mr Thomas emphasized Maurice Galton's view that much more of what went on in schools should be "openly negotiated" with pupils. He welcomed the increased participation of parents and hoped other agencies would get more involved but teachers had a responsibility to explain what was going on.

He reminded the conference that Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, in his Sheffield speech in January said the primary school curriculum should have more breadth, more differentiation, more relevance and a better balance between its parts. "We must be sure that we interpret these four changes our way."

Committee to scrutinize early years

The Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts confirmed this week its intention to conduct a substantial inquiry into primary education.

The inquiry which was first announced in January, is expected to begin in June and to continue well into the next session of Parliament. Its terms of reference will be announced next week but the committee has not yet decided whether to appoint advisers.

Sir William Van Straubenzee, chairman of the Select Committee, this week described the inquiry as "influenced by the fact that primary education had not been scrutinized in detail since the early years of education."

which we regard as the foundation of the whole education process."

Sir William said he expected the committee to visit schools in Britain and to look at the experience of other countries.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the inquiry into good practice in inner London's primary schools has appealed for evidence from other parts of the country.

Mr Norman Thomas, formerly the chief HM Inspector for primary education, told The TES his committee of 12 would welcome any evidence from parents, teachers or governors describing methods which were successful in helping children to learn. The committee was set up by the Inner London Education Authority and began its work in January. Its special remit is to look at underachievement

among working-class children.

Before Christmas the committee visited over 40 schools chosen by the ILEA's inspectors to show them a range of provision. Since then more visits have been waiting in pairs these schools which have recommended themselves as displaying good practice.

Among the schools being looked at are some of the 90 supplementary language schools set up by ethnic minorities, mostly for evening and weekend study.

The committee now has five sub-groups looking at the following: community-school relations; the curriculum; bi-lingualism and community education; professional development for teachers and primary links with secondary schools.

Exams reflect changing attitudes on race

by Nick Wood

An insight into the way O levels and CSEs in social sciences have reflected changing attitudes in society is given in a new report on social sciences at 16-plus.

Some exams, particularly CSE Mode III, set and marked by teachers, show how both national and international perspectives of schools have altered in the last decade.

Some of the most interesting examples come from the CSE Mode III social studies course at Tulsa Hill School in south London - an area with a stable black population. The course includes topics on "imperialism", "power", "racism", the "growth of imperialism", "racist ideology", "connections between racism and economic class relations" and "racism and the law".

One question set in the 1982 exam says: "Describe the harassment many black people have faced as a result of immigration controls in two of the following areas: police raids, detention centres, family break-up, hospital treatment."

Another question in the same exam asks children what people in industrial countries and the Third World can do to stop multinational companies harming the interests of people in the Third World.

Mrs Angela Mukhopadhyay, head of social sciences at a West Midlands school, quotes these examples in her report on social sciences courses and exams. The report was originally commissioned by the now defunct Schools Council and has been released by its successor, the School Curriculum Development Committee.

"This question seeks to show that the involvement of Western nations is often just self interest and that the causes of Third World problems are essentially external," she says. She also applauds the question on harassment of black people. "This question makes an attempt, almost unique within examination papers, to explore the experience of black people from their own viewpoint and makes an attempt for candidates to demonstrate that government legislation may not have improved race relations but may have provoked insecurity and

resentment in black communities."

Mrs Mukhopadhyay warns that attempts to attack "stereotyped" attitudes, must be used "with care since they voice racist and ethnocentric statements which, despite the clear indication that they are myths based on ignorance, may gain some credence because they appear on an examination paper."

She says that the new courses and exams now springing up "may help to counteract the dominant attitudes of racism and ethnocentrism which suffuse British culture."

In her opinion, many of the syllabuses still in use are "relics of the colonial past and do not reflect the changes in British society and the shifts in the world balance of political and economic power which now necessitate that all children have knowledge of other societies and cultures."

She is particularly critical of the way schools teach children about the Third World. There is too much emphasis on the indices of world inequalities, such as GNP per capita, and not enough on the underlying causes, she says.

"In a society where racist and ethnocentric attitudes are widespread, the candidates may attribute such inequalities to the lethargy and incompetence of Third World nations."

"At best, making candidates merely relate the extent of the inequality is only likely to engender patronizing attitudes of sympathy."

Pupils should be encouraged to see that "underdevelopment of the Third World is directly related to the development of Western nations and involves issues of colonialism, imperialism, exploitation by multinational companies and the inequalities of global power and economics."

Most of the syllabuses and exams cited by Mrs Mukhopadhyay are CSE Mode III, but the Cambridge O level sociology course is singled out for its "imaginative, stimulating and interesting questioning."

Its exams have required children to explain why there is nothing inherently "natural" in the nuclear family or in women's roles being those of wife and mother.

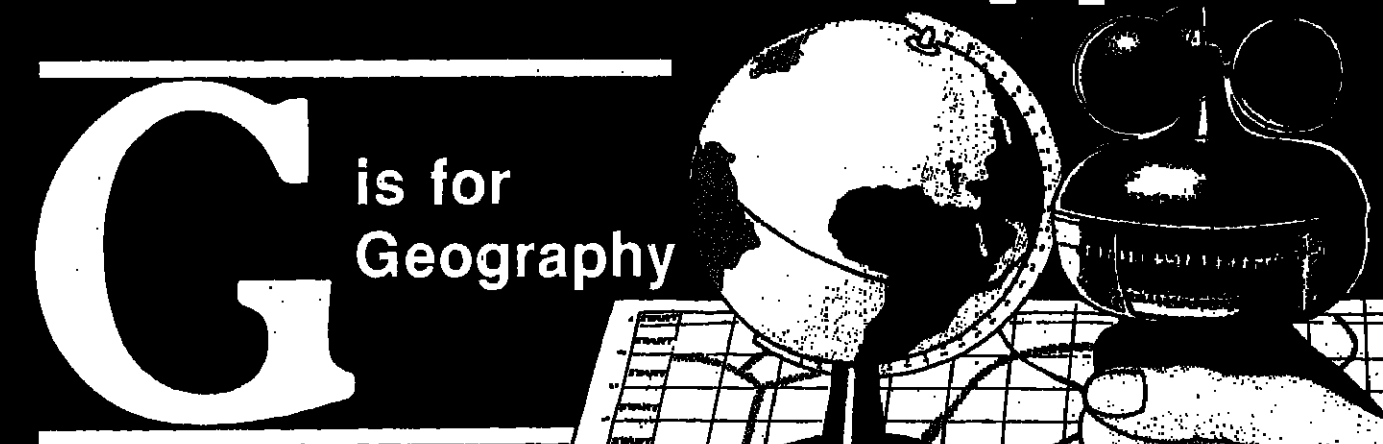
The report also illustrates the rapid growth in social sciences as a school subject during the 1970s. Exam entries in O level sociology rose from nought in 1969 to 45,000 a decade later, and in CSE social studies they jumped from under 10,000 to nearly 90,000, around 60,000 of which were for Mode III.

The report has, though, drawn some criticism. Mr Stuart Sexton, political adviser to Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, said that neither the exams described nor the conclusions drawn squared with Conservative thinking on race relations. The approach described in the report was likely to exacerbate, not help, the prospects for racial harmony.

"We want to treat all children on an equal basis," he said. "After all most of the black children in London are born and bred cockneys, not immigrants."

Assessment in a multicultural society: social sciences at 16 plus. By Mrs Angela Mukhopadhyay. Published by Longman. 104 pp. Price £3.50.

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NEWS

Bert Lodge reports from the annual NAS/WT conference in Llandudno

Teachers angry over Inspectors' 'unfair' questions

Her Majesty's Inspectors are abusing their powers during school visits, delegates to the NAS/WT conference were told.

Mr Adrian West (Rhuddlan, North Wales) told of an Inspector who asked what form of homework had been given through the year. When the teacher replied, the Inspector turned to the class and asked: "Is that right?" On another inspection the final report contained observations on the outdoor activities of the outdoors specialist although nobody had watched him at work outside.

There should be some right of reply to HMI reports, Mr West said. This should be appended to the report and should have the same standing. Nevertheless, an attempt to establish guidelines governing the conduct of the Inspectorate was abandoned after Mr Ian Donaldson (Executive) reminded delegates that the Inspectorate was an independent body like the judiciary.

Instead, delegates accepted an amendment moved by Mrs Sue Rogers (Sheffield) urging the executive to "propose" a code of conduct to HMI together with a format for reports.

A motion complaining of political interference in schools was dropped after delegates were warned that whatever the results of the debate they would be misinterpreted outside the hall.

The motion proposed by Mr John Atherfold (Doncaster) called for a reappraisal of the various powers distributed among the Secretary of State, local authorities, and governors of schools. It also asserted that the curriculum was a matter for governing bodies, teachers and professional support services.

But Mr David Waugh (Brentford) said a vote for the motion would tie the hands of the executive. A vote against would make it appear they rejected

legitimate public interest. Proposing the motion, Mr Atherfold, head of a large comprehensive, said he had never been told so many times by politicians that teachers would do as they were told. In his view local politicians were circumventing the established agencies of authority in education.

He worked, he said, in the Socialist Republic of South Yorkshire, particularly in the Independent Socialist State of Doncaster, where local politicians were more concerned with free meals being given to the children of striking miners than with the implications of a half-day strike which would affect everybody.

At national level there was no doubt the Government envied the degree of control it saw in other countries. Sir Keith Joseph the Education Secretary, had also shown he wanted to get his hands on the curriculum and the examination system.

More and more control in education was passing to the Manpower Services Commission which had been created to bypass the more slow-moving educational establishment.

Opposing the motion, Mr Peter Herbert, (Executive) said that as a teacher in inner London he well knew about political pressure. The ILEA was pressing Labour members of governing bodies to become more involved in the curriculum. It was the ILEA policy to extend mixed ability

Cold feet over political interference motion

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teaching, for example, although it made many more demands upon teachers.

Another executive member, Mr John Rowland, said the union had always supported the 1944 Education Act which gave certain powers to local authorities. "The executive is not philosophically opposed to the motion but we know the vast majority of teachers want control of the service to stay with politicians."

Mr Rowland asked what the proponents of the motion were after. It would be unrealistic to say that the major providers of money for education should have no say in how it was spent.

NAS/WT ANNUAL CONFERENCE LLANDUDNO 1984



Above: Peter Mathews delivers his presidential address. Below: conference smiles from retiring president Gerry Lee and Allan Jones, one of the two women executive members.

Executive instructed to negotiate 'no cover' agreement

The executive failed to dilute a motion from Birmingham delegates instructing it to negotiate a national no cover agreement. Its amendment seeking to replace the word "negotiate" with "continue to seek" was defeated.

Mrs Christine Keates (Birmingham) said a teacher could only refuse to cover for an absent colleague who was on a legal agreement. There was a legal agreement allowing an I.C.A. a certain number of days to arrange a supply teacher.

An authority had not replaced a teacher and so a vacancy existed. It was vital, she said, that a national agreement be established to ensure teachers who refused to cover were in breach of contract and could have their salary deducted.

Mr Mike Davis (Whitley Bay) said he was aware that the union had tried to negotiate a no cover agreement with the school teacher working party of the Council of Local Education Authorities - but this was a useless body. The word "negotiate" had to stay in the resolution to give it more teeth.

Mr Bob Edmondson (Sandwich) said they should not be negotiating at all. "Let the executive give us an instruction and in September this year we will bloody well stop covering."

Mr Peter Cole (Sandwell) said he supplemented his earnings by working part time as a long distance lorry driver. In that world trade union principles were strictly observed. If a driver did not turn up another had to be sent for. Trade union methods should be used to fight for trade union principles.

Mr Joe Boone, of the executive, said the terms of the motion were about to be fulfilled. Within discussions of the salary structure working party the union had made it clear that there must be a limit on the amount of cover a teacher had to undertake.

Mr Boone said that the union would hold to the same understanding which had brought it victory in the dispute in Durham last year where it was made clear that any cover undertaken was entirely at the goodwill of the teacher.

Mr Bryan Enfield, another executive member, said he wished the conference would be a bit more careful about instructions to the executive. Delegates were sometimes just unrealistic. "When you instruct the executive see that it is about something that is deliverable."

Three tonics that could revitalize primary staff

While passing a motion calling for improvements in the standing and conditions of primary teachers, delegates refused to accept a wording implying career prospects in secondary schools were better. After demanding "improved career opportunities in primary schools" they deleted "equal to those in secondary schools."

Mr David Baitty (Sheffield) said there were not necessarily more promotion opportunities in the secondary sector. "More people are stuck on scale 1 in secondary than in primary. There are primary schools where every single teacher has been promoted to scale 2."

But Mrs Ruth Maskall (Hampshire), seconding the motion, said many primary teachers did in-service training in their own time but then could not benefit in their schools because they were on the top of the scale.

What happened to incentive, she asked. Three things were desirable in the primary sector. There should be a reasonable amount of non-contact time, a manageable class size and improved career prospects. Teachers should be rewarded for sheer ability, regardless of the status of their school.

Proposing the motion, Mr Martin Woodton (Sefton) a high school teacher, thought that the desirable amount of non-contact time was 20 per cent, but many primary teachers got only 5 per cent or less.

Mr Joe Boone (Executive) assured delegates that in the salary structure working party not just money but also conditions of service were under discussion. These would include non-contact time for all teachers together with the provision of adequate supply teachers.

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Name change approved

Meeting in private session the conference decided the name of the association should be changed by next year. The decision was taken despite a plea from Mr Terry Casey, former general secretary, who said that conference should remember the susceptibility of women members.

At the time of the merger with the National Association of Schoolmasters the Union of Women Teachers was reluctant to avoid the implication

that they had been taken over. Some delegates pointed out, however, that apart from the unwieldiness of the present title, the reference to schoolmasters was misleading when the union was trying to recruit teachers in further education.

The executive was ordered to circulate branches by October with suggestions for a new title so that a decision could be made at the 1985 conference.

Cooperation on pupil profiles to be stopped

The conference resolved not to cooperate with schemes to produce pupil profiles unless these were validated by external bodies and teachers were given extra resources.

Mr David Baitty (Sheffield) said pupil profiles and other statements of achievement must have some value outside the school. At present schools throughout the United Kingdom were re-inventing the wheel. He thought that the ideal body to validate profiles would be the regional examination boards.

The amount of manpower involved among teachers was creditable. He knew of one school where the exercise had taken five hours for just one pupil in only one subject.

Mr Ian Donaldson (Executive), seconding, said members were being pressured into taking part in these schemes. But if profiling were to be

introduced, members should ask their heads, "If I do it, what am I not going to do that I was doing previously?" Or "Are we to have additional staff?" If the answer was negative, then what extra payment would there be?

Mr John Atherfold (Doncaster), said he was in favour of the motion as he was particularly worried about character profiles. With the emphasis on open records, legal problems could arise.

As for academic records, he could see no need for teachers to do them. With present technology, examining boards could simply put all their tests through the computer.

The conference rejected the executive's bid for union control of the resistance to the introduction of profiles by rewording the resolution so that members would act only under instruction.

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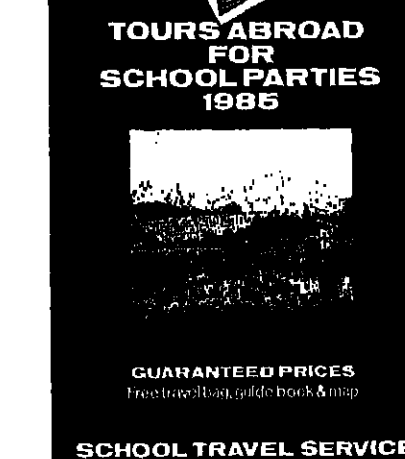
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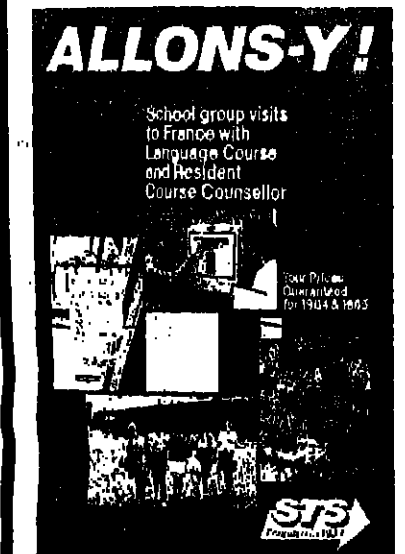
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2nd Prize (£2,000 towards tour costs): Mr R. C. AMBROSE, All Saints School, Roudon, Lyme Regis.
3rd Prize (£1,000 towards tour costs): Mrs F. GOSLING, Stamford High School.

Pupils' Competition (a drawing, painting or colour photograph made on an STS tour. For each age group the prizes were: 1st - £1,000 to the pupil's school and £100 to the pupil; 2nd - £200 to the school and £50 to the pupil; 3rd - £250 to the school and £25 to the pupil).

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Cairn Wood of Roman Preparatory School, Chelmsley.
Dulcie Powell of St Joseph's R.C. Middle School, Guildford.
Rachel Tapp of St Thomas More R.C. Middle School, E. Molesey.

Age Groups 13-17 years:
Wendy Joyce of Loughborough Sixth Form College, Harrow.
Priscilla Colwell of St John's C. of E. Middle School, Wimbledon.
Jana Eshington of English Martyrs R.C. School, Leicester.

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Wednesday, May 16	7.00-9.00pm	Bromley Court Hotel	4.50-4.95pm
Thursday, May 17	7.00-9.00pm	Teachers' Centre	4.50-4.95pm
Friday, May 18	7.00-9.00pm	School	4.50-4.95pm
Saturday, May 19	7.00-9.00pm	Post House Hotel	4.50-4.95pm
Sunday, May 20	7.00-9.00pm	Teachers' Centre	4.50-4.95pm
Monday, May 21	7.00-9.00pm	Teachers' Centre	4.50-4.95pm
Tuesday, May 22	7.00-9.00pm	Teachers' Centre	4.50-4.95pm
Wednesday, May 23	7.00-9.00pm	Teachers' Centre	4.50-4.95pm
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NEWS



Why flat-rate was left on the back burner

Richard Garner looks back on the manoeuvring that went on at Blackpool which resulted in the union having to call a special conference to decide next year's pay claim



Delegates wanted flat-rate claim

After three days of high drama and intense debate, delegates left the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers with their salary policy for next year still undecided.

What became clear during last week was that a majority of the delegates wanted a flat-rate pay claim to be lodged by the union for the first time in 15 years. But a series of debating tactics and procedural manoeuvres prevented that from being expressed in the words of a conference motion.

The issue will now remain unclear until a special salaries conference - probably in September - which will assess the outcome of the salary restructuring talks apparently going ahead with the local education authorities and fix next year's claim.

Mr Doug McAvoy, acting general secretary of the NUT, said: "If we report we have failed on the salary restructuring talks in time for 1985, it is likely we would be looking for some interim salary claim on the basis of a flat rate."

"The purpose of this flat rate would be to get teachers away from the poverty line which the majority of them are now on."

The drama over pay was perhaps best summed up by Mr David Firth, a deputy head from Bradford, who on the Thursday morning tried to persuade delegates to take a third bite at the flat-rate cherry in the form of an emergency motion by urging them "don't be put off by the moving of the devious question."

He was describing the procedural device used by Mr Don Winters, the union's ex-president and now treasurer. For immediately after delegates had voted by a decisive majority for an amendment to the executive's salary proposals for next year calling for a flat-rate rise, he moved "the previous question".

If his bid had been successful it would have had the effect of reversing the flat-rate amendment and removing it from the salaries document.

He had been worried that the

amendment talked of a flat-rate increase based on the retail price index since 1975 and not on the Houghton Committee of Inquiry. This committed the executive to asking for a lower figure.

In the event he failed and so the executive then threw its weight behind opposing the whole salary document it had drawn up and left-wingers like Mr Dick North, the once suspended member for Lambeth who has been a constant critic of the executive, uttered the immortal words: "Conference, and it's not often I ask you to do this, please throw your weight behind the executive memorandum."

The executive won this battle which effectively left the union without an agreed salaries policy from the conference. However, there is still a motion

from Brent teachers calling for teachers' pay to be restored to the 1975 level - and to behold an amendment calling for a flat-rate increase to restore the average teachers' salary to its level in that year.

However, anyone thinking the issue could simply be resolved by a straight debate on the motion and amendment had another thing coming.

The amendment, from Norwich, also called for opposition to the idea of entry grades for teachers - which is one of the ideas being floated in the salary restructuring talks.

Senior executive members believe that this amendment too, would give teachers a lower figure than Houghton to opt for.

That was why Mr Firth, who on the Monday had re-written the words of

the hymn *All Things Bright and Beautiful* to read:

"The rich air in his office, The poor air at his desk, Chance made them high and lowly, percentages did the rest."

tried to get an emergency debate on a motion simply calling for a flat-rate pay claim next year. However, he did not get the necessary two-thirds majority.

And so the conference - now running short of time - went on to debate the Brent motion and, as it looked from a show of hands, to pass the flat-rate amendment.

However, delegates supporting the Brent line stood up and Mr Peter Griffin, the union's president, called for a card vote - a ruling which clearly angered the flat-rate supporters who

questioned whether there had been necessary 200 delegates standing for a card vote to be taken.

It then emerged that if the result of this division was not known before noon (the time for the ending of the conference), the motion would be because there would not be time enough to put the amended motion to the vote.

This, in the end, was what happened - although the result was declared at 12.06pm giving 115.413 for the flat-rate amendment and 99.246 against. It was then that Mr Griffin announced there would be a special salaries conference later in the year.

So there is a deep division between the executive and the majority of conference delegates on the flat-rate claim. What lies behind this is the executive's fear that a flat-rate claim would prove unacceptable to other teachers' organizations in the year the salary restructuring talks could be concluded.

However, delegates such as Mr North and Ms Felicity Dowling, from Liverpool, said it could be good in the long run for the NUT as the largest teachers union, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, would benefit from a flat-rate claim.

If the pay debate could be debated on the "devious question", perhaps it could also be said that the whole of conference was dogged by procedural manoeuvring.

On the final morning, too, a motion on education and disarmament was from the agenda because of an amendment from the Education Society. Mr Griffin's ruling that outside the aims and objects of the union because it raised issues of affiliation to CND.

Challenges to the president's normally heard at the beginning of next session. However, since the conference it was made during the last part of the conference it meant that the motion had to be put to one side.

NEWS

Diane Spencer reports from the annual conference of the National Council for Special Education in Northampton

Staff training 'lamentable'

A call for a coherent local authority and regional training strategy for all teachers was made last week by a leading special educationist.

Professor Peter Mittler, of Manchester University, told the annual conference of the National Council for Special Education in Northampton that education was "lamentably backward in staff development compared with other professions."

"Since education is our business it is not extraordinarily ironic that we pay little attention to our own educational development? None of us is adequately equipped to meet the challenges confronting us; we all need retraining," he said.

He believed every teacher should have access to a personal development programme which would be negotiated between the teacher, the head and the local authority. This plan would need central government encouragement and funding.

Although they must be grateful for the £1m earmarked by the Government for in-service training for special educational needs, even this development was seriously flawed. The amount was inadequate to cover more than a tiny number of the country's 22,000 primary and 4,000 secondary schools, so the process of choosing teachers to send on courses was bound to be arbitrary.

The training institutions have so far been willing to run the courses without extra money, but inevitably this has been at the expense of other equally valuable work, said Professor Mittler. Professor Mittler pointed out that the specific funding for in-service spe-

cial needs training was confined to teachers in mainstream schools. The training needs of teachers in special schools were being ignored even though it was clear the schools would continue for some time to come.

Since the publication of the Warnock report on children with special educational needs, higher education had suffered a series of severe blows including a spate of early retirements. No efforts had been made to protect special education departments. Courses had been abandoned - in Manchester they had been forced to give up most of their advanced work in maladjustment, though they were one of only four universities with a specialist diploma in this field.

Neither was he impressed with the recommendation of the working party of the Advisory Committee for the Supply and Training of Teachers. They have just told the Education Secretary that specialist initial teacher training for the deaf and mentally handicapped, for example, should end so that resources could be switched to in-service and initial training.

He did not think this would happen and believed that the management side had not yet thought through the strategy.

Mr Freddie Green, HM staff inspector for Special Education, agreed that the 1981 Education Act had generated mountains of paper. Mr Green said he also realised that the Government had been accused of over-formalizing what had been intended as an informal procedure to decide which children should attend special school, units, or were in need of some special provision.

And he knew that the Act sometimes placed professionals in a moral dilemma: they had to write a "statement" for handicapped children indicating their problems and needs, but had to be mindful of the restraints on resources.

He feared that the Government's rate-policy capping and talk of "finite budgets" could mean that special education expenditure would not be kept at the same level as it had been during the past three years.

As for integration of handicapped children into ordinary schools, Mr Green noted that many children were merely being placed in the mainstream with their needs unmet.

He hoped that the newly-proposed body, the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, would only approve a course for initial teacher training when it contained a mandatory element of special needs. An option was not good enough, he said.

Mr Green said he was "very sad" that the Government had decided not to legislate on the legal basis of further education. This continued the gap in the 1981 Education Act which had been deliberately left by the framers of the original Bill because they had been told that the whole legal framework for 16 to 19-year-olds would be clarified in due course.

The present Education Secretary had firm ideas about the 1944 Education Act's interpretation: Sir Keith Joseph had said on numerous occasions that local authorities had a duty to provide education up to the age of 19, but the situation could change, Mr Green warned.



Soft touch: children stroke a lamb born on Jack Collins's farm in Marksbury, Bath, Avon. Mr Collins housed the ewes in a marquee, which made the lambing safer and also encouraged children to come and observe. The youngsters were taken on a tour of the farm, and, best of all, allowed to hold and feed the lambs.

Better deal sought for children in care

Family courts urged by MPs

An all-party committee of MPs has strongly recommended the setting up of family courts as a "radical departure" from the present juvenile courts.

It says there "could offer the possibility of a significantly better deal for children in care."

The recommendation, which does not specify what type of court is wanted, comes in a report by the Commons Social Services Select Committee on children in care.

The MPs say that in 1982 about 1 in 133 of the population under 18 in England and Wales was in care - this was about 93,000 children. The cost of this was at least £370m.

The committee recommends a "radical departure" from present juvenile courts by setting up family courts to deal with juvenile and domestic matters.

The committee says: "If the outcome produces courts more aware of the options available to them, less

bound by irrelevant legal constraints and as committed to solving as defining conflict, we will be helped."

The report also points out that an increase in nursery provision could lead to a reduction in the number of children in care.

More care for poorer families called for with MPs suggesting extension of the long term care and supplementary benefit to unemployed families with children to help with some problems before local authorities are called in.

Foster parents are also praised in the report: "It must be remembered that foster parents are volunteers and an essential element of child care."

Improvements in the training of social workers and the inclusion of the school curriculum of parenthood in the school curriculum of parenthood are called for.

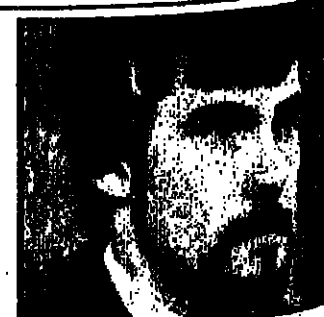
The report says: "It is no good teaching children to be good citizens if they become incompetent parents."

New post for language campaigner

Mr Wayne Williams, jailed for taking part in a Welsh language campaign, has been appointed head of department at a school from which he was once banned.

Mr Williams, a former chairman of the Welsh Language Society, will take over as head of Welsh at Llanidloes High School, mid-Wales, in September.

In 1981 he served six months in prison after being found guilty of conspiracy to damage broadcasting equipment as part of the campaign for a Welsh language fourth television channel.



Wayne Williams

At the time he was teaching Welsh at Llanidloes and the governors decided not to renew his contract.

Mr Williams fought a successful appeal from his prison cell but later lost it.

Eventually Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, decided Mr Williams could stay in his post, but he was given a stern warning about his conduct.

Art associations drawing together

by Owen Surridge

Two art teachers' organizations are to merge in October to form the National Society for Education in Art and Design. They are the Society for Education through Art and the National Society for Art Education.

The new body will have an initial membership of nearly a third of the 10,000 art teachers in the UK, and is expected to take over the NSAE's seat on the Burnham committee. It will be the largest single subject association in its field.

According to John Steers, the secretary of the NSAE, and future secretary of the NSEAD, the new body can be expected to adopt a more forceful attitude than has been customary with art teachers' associations.

There are already plans to review the place of art and design in primary schools and the training of primary school teachers. It is likely also to promulgate a belief that art is as essential as literacy and numeracy and will aim to secure a place for art in the curriculum of all children throughout their schooling.

Behind the merger lies the realization that a united front is needed for art and design. It will put an end to the long history of squabbling between the two constituent organizations, one of which was committed to a professional status, the other to a trade union point of view.

The Society of Education through Art grew out of proposals for an art research institute in the late 1930s and reached fruition with the merger of the Art Teachers Guild and the New Society of Art Teachers in 1940. The National Society of Art Education originated in 1988 as the Society of Art Masters, the product of a group of art school principals who wanted to raise the standard of art teaching and improve its status.

The announcement of the merger came during the NSAE conference in Bath last week, at which Michael Yeomans, its president, challenged the view that children who had difficulty in writing, reading and arithmetic were

necessarily unintelligent. He claimed that the solving of problems through visual techniques was as sound a method as those using words and numbers.

He blamed the current pressure for vocationally oriented education for exaggerating this view and pledged that the association would fight at government level for adequate provision for art and design education.

A call for teachers to cooperate to develop an awareness of the relevance of design throughout the curriculum came from Ken Boyes, of the Royal College of Art education unit, who said design was an ordinary and ubiquitous activity and should be treated as such in schools.

Designing that design was the property of any one subject, he said the idea was not to turn out a few specialist designers but to equip all youngsters with the ability to manipulate their environment through practical skills as well as reasoning.

Peter Young, HMI, said there was much confusion in schools about the teaching of crafts, design and technology. Too often the guidance of sensitive art teachers had been removed.

He also revealed the HM Inspectorate would be writing about the place of art and design in the curriculum at the age of 14 plus and 16 plus during the next year, and their ideas would be tried out in schools.

The aim was to enable pupils to work more from direct observation, to take pleasure in their work and to have the skill to carry it to a satisfactory conclusion. To do that he said they needed contact with materials and the assurance to take creative risks.

Stuart Macdonald, editor of the *Journal of Art and Design Education*, said the introduction of the design element was causing a fear among art teachers that art education would become a subsidiary of a design department.

"The best way to ensure that", he said, "is to stick your head in the sand and pretend that design does not exist."

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NEWS

NOTICEBOARD

PEOPLE...

SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS
Marion Rosen, deputy head of Brampton junior school in the London borough of Newham, to be head of Gayhurst junior school, Hackney.

Christina Shuttler, deputy head of Morden Mount junior school, Lewisham, to be head of Wyborne junior school in New Eltham, south London.

COLLEGE APPOINTMENTS
Three senior staff from Wakefield District College have accepted the following appointments: Mr E Kirby, to be



Marion Rosen

principal of Knowsley Tertiary College, Merseyside; Dr J Carey, to be principal of Exeter College, Devon; and Mr A Perry to be vice-principal of Shirecliffe College, Sheffield.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS
The following staff have been appointed to the new centre for the study of community and race relations in the department of government at Brunel University: Garry Burton, on secondment from Coventry Community Relations Council to be course convenor; Anthea Hey, a senior research fellow; William Hughes, a chief inspector with Greater Manchester police force; Sandra Jones, a criminologist; Richard Joss, a chief inspector with the Metropolitan Police; Robin Oakley, lecturer in



Christina Shuttler

sociology at Bedford College, and Susan Smith, visiting professor from the University College of Los Angeles.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS
Lily Khan, a Bangladeshi teacher and social worker, and Professor Bhiku Parekh, professor of political theory at Hull University, have been appointed part-time members of the Commission for Racial Equality. Marjorie Freeman has been appointed children's officer to the General Synod of the Church of England's Board of Education based at Church House, London.

CONFERENCES...

May 19
Scottish Association for Biological Education annual symposium at the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Dundee. Fee: £5.50. Details from Beryl Leatherland, 57 Charles Way, Limekilns, Fife KY11 3JN.

May 26
Records of Achievement for School Leavers: a one-day conference sponsored by the World Education Fellowship and the University of Bath Values in Education Research Group at the University of Bath School of Education from 10.30am to 4.45pm. Speakers: James Hemming, Tyrrell Burgess and Patricia Broadfoot. Fee: £7.50. Details from Jack Whitehead, School of Education, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY. Applications should be in by May 12.

June 9
A teachers' conference to discuss the new AEB philosophy A level syllabus at Sheffield University. A recent video of work in this area by the Royal Institute of Philosophy will be shown and Jack Huntington, who teaches philosophy in Abraham Moss Comprehensive, Manchester, will be among the speakers. Information about the JMB's planned A level in philosophy is also likely to be available. Details from Dr Maurice Roche, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield S10 2TN.

July 2-3
Seventh Anglo-American conference on trends and developments in special education at Chelsea College, Lightfoot Hall, Manresa Road, London SW3. Programme and Application forms from Mrs D Austin, Ravenswood Village, Nine Mile Ride, Crowthorne, Berkshire RG11 6BQ.

July 9-13
An international conference on microscopy together with an international exhibition of modern microscopes and ancillary equipment (in association with Nature) at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, London WC1. Details from the Royal Microscopical Society, 37/38 St Clements, Oxford OX4 1AJ.

August 5-9
International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling conference on Youth Counselling at the University of Aarhus, Denmark. Details from the Secretary, Dr Derek Hope, Brunel University, Kingston Lane, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 3PH.

COURSES...

May 16
A botanical field study project *Recording the Flora of Glasgow* 1985 is being run by the University of Glasgow Department of Adult and Continuing Education. The fee for the six-meeting course (Wednesdays at 7 pm) is £8.40. Details from the Enrolment Secretary, Department of Adult and Continuing Education, 57-61 Oakfield Avenue, Glasgow G12 8LW.

May 23
Careers Research and Advisory Centre's course on Youth Unemployment and the Future of Work at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington, London from 9.45am to 4.15pm. Speakers: Tony Watts, Guy Dauncey, Chris Marsden and Alan Jamieson. Fee: £39. Details from CRAC, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ.

July 4-6
The Craft Design and Technology Curriculum and Girls' Education: a course to examine approaches to the teaching of CDT in the early secondary years at Chelsea College. Fee: £20 non-resident, £40 resident. Details from The CDT project, Centre for Science and Mathematics Education, Chelsea College, Bridges Place, London SW6 4HR.

July 9-18
La France des Années 80: a summer school at Portsmouth with a technical teachers of French will be a refresher course in the language and a survey of French politics, economy, society and culture in the 1980s. Details from Eric Cahn, course director, School of Languages and Area Studies, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Withshire Building, Hampshire Terrace, Portsmouth PO1 2BU.

July 22-August 4
Strawberry Hill Arts and Heritage Summer School at St Mary's College. Residential and non-residential places are available on the two week-long courses. Details from John Iddon, St Mary's College, Twickenham TW1 4X.

EVENTS...

May 19
Professor Richard Whittfield, Director of Child Care, Save the Children Fund, will lecture on Supporting Parents in their Child Development Responsibilities 11am in the Elvin Hall, Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1. Tickets for the lecture, organised by the Child Development Society, will be available at the door, price 50p.

May 21-26
Education for Interdependence: an exhibition to launch the history of the Council for Education in World Citizenship. *Peace Through Education* Derek Heater, will be held at the University of London Institute of Education. Six organizations concerned with world citizenship and development will contribute. Details from CEWC, 19-21 Tudor Street, London EC4Y 0DL.

June 5, 6, and 7
The Royal Institution Schools Lecture for Fourth Forms on The Scientific Progress of Soap Films and Soap Bubbles will be given by Dr G. Leiberman at 5.30pm at the Royal Institution, 21 Albermarle Street, London W1. Details from the Lecture Secretary.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS...

I Can Do That! - an investigation into the place of voluntary work in the lives of young women, which seeks to broaden the range of opportunities open to them. It is based on interviews with 60 young women from a range of 20 agencies and includes recommendations for change. Discussion papers and relevant statistical material. It is available price £0.75p from the National Youth Bureau's Sales Department, 17-23 Albion Street, Leicester LE1 6GD.

Your Interview in Teaching by J D Roberts is a useful pamphlet offering comprehensive guidance to candidates for teaching posts before, during and after an interview. It is available by post from New Education Press, 27a Old Gloucester Street, London WC1, price £1.50.

Teaching methods and the use of books and libraries in the primary school: a review and a study of the use of books and libraries by children in primary schools are two reports by Pauline Heather published by the Centre for Research on User Studies at Sheffield University. They are available price £5 and £10.50 respectively (including postage) from CRUS, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2TN.

Compiled by Mary Cruickshank

SCHOOL TO WORK

Long-term critics rally to defence of the YTS

Long-standing critics of the Youth Training Scheme are beginning to rally to its defence. They say that however flawed and inadequate the scheme, it must be saved from Government attempts to turn it into something much worse.

The critics, along with many of the scheme's original champions, are concentrating on resisting pressure from ministers to phase out Mode B1, the training projects run by local authorities and voluntary agencies.

They are also opposing any new moves to make the scheme compulsory by cutting off benefits entirely from youngsters who refuse to join. At the same time, they are insisting that the trade unions should step up efforts to expose employers who exploit youngsters without providing any worthwhile training. The unions are also being urged to press the Manpower Services Commission to put more resources into monitoring.

Two of the scheme's critics, both bodies prominently involved in the training and youth employment field produced reports this week evidencing the new fears. Both the Greater London Training Board and Youthaid are setting out radical alternative training policies which they say should replace the present YTS, but both are calling for urgent measures meanwhile to remedy its alleged abuses.

Twelve hundred YTS places in London are being funded by the GTB. The board says it is compelled to spend a third of its £3m-a-year budget on supporting the scheme to try to make up for its deficiencies.

Six hundred apprenticeships - which

together with London Transport's training programme are thought to make up nearly a half of the total apprentice training now surviving in the capital - are being sustained by the board.

It is not known what will happen to them if the GLC-funded board, which includes representatives of industry and education as well as the political parties, goes under in the abolition of the council.

This week Mr Gareth Daniel, the board's chairman, attacked the whole

Edited by
Mark Jackson

approach of the YTS to the training of school leavers. He questioned the whole concept of a broad foundation training which did not specify any real skills training, and said that London's experience demonstrated clearly the need for training related to the needs of the individual and of the community.

It must be properly assessed and certified, with the trade unions involved. Otherwise youngsters, and for that matter trainees, of any age would be at the mercy of employers concerned only with their short-term requirements.

Mr Daniel said that the board's own experience in attempting to monitor a few hundred YTS places showed how unlikely it was that the MSC could effectively supervise the thousands of employers throughout the country.

It was clear that the only hope for

many youngsters, particularly those from ethnic minorities and for girls, of getting some kind of training was in Mode B scheme.

Mode B was under attack, said Mr Daniel, because the Government saw training as primarily an activity by and for employers, and the YTS largely as an instrument for reducing youth wages.

A report, prepared by the board's officers on current Government policies and their effects, concludes that they are calculated to devalue training and lower its quality.

The report calls for an alternative strategy which should aim at giving young people a foundation based on real skills which it claims can be transferable, and for adults to be retrained, where necessary, in skills which will be of use to them.

Training should seek to tackle the patterns of disadvantage in the labour market, and must be planned and run locally through democratically-accountable bodies.

"Skills should not be regarded as something to be rationed by employers, but as a possession of working people," says the report.

An entirely new youth training scheme to help prepare young people for jobs, job changes, and periods out of work was called for this week by Youthaid, the youth employment pressure group.

Mr Paul Lewis, Youthaid's director, told the annual meeting on Tuesday that it needed to be backed by a new job creation programme which would build on the success of existing initiatives by local authorities in many parts



On the climb? Dean West who is on a plumbing course at Denham Court

of the country.

And he called for "a new commitment by those lucky enough to be in work to share their wealth more equally to relieve the poverty of those without jobs."

The annual report presented to the meeting alleged that the YTS was failing to meet its basic objective of taking all 16-year-old leavers out of the dole queue.

Mr Lewis claimed that new figures obtained from the MSC showed that ministers were wrong in insisting that the leavers who were not in the YTS were in jobs or in full-time education. They showed that 25,000 had left the scheme for the dole queue.

Mr John Fairlie, head of the board's support unit, said this week that even if the board accepted the idea in principle, it was doubtful whether the MSC would agree to the scheme containing in the same way, with the high proportion of staffing needed for a residential centre.

The centre is thought to provide the only full-time one-year boarding course in the YTS. Last month Mr David Young, the MSC's chairman, upheld a decision by his area manager, Miss Linda Corrick, to close down the project as part of the Government-ordered cut in Mode B1 provision.

Now the MSC is suggesting to the GLTB, which runs the centre, that it could continue as a Mode A project. This would mean that the MSC's grant would drop from just under half to around a quarter of the present total cost of running the scheme.

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Colleges slam NAFE plan

by Diane Spencer

The Government is now threatened with stiff resistance from colleges throughout the country if it tries to impose its plans to remodel adult training and change the funding arrangements for non-advanced further education over the heads of the local authorities.

College principals and governors warned the Education and Employment Secretaries last week that they will not cooperate in the plans, set out in the *Training for Jobs* White Paper, unless the ministers "come to terms with the local authorities".

In a commentary on the White Paper, the Association of Colleges for Further and Higher Education says its greatest weakness is "the continued belief that we can solve all of our problems by a combination of central decision making and *laissez-faire*".

It deplored the lack of consultation which had alienated both local government and the further education service and it criticized some of the thinking

behind the White Paper's proposals. It particularly attacked the assumption that further education had somehow "failed" industry and the belief that training could be bought and sold in the market place. This would lead to over-provision in areas, and a worsening of the skills shortage problem.

The education service's greatest strength had been overlooked by the White Paper. "It is not a pyramid but a disseminated system. Each college focuses on local need and its management system is directly responsible to the local community."

"The colleges are much better equipped than the Manpower Services Commission to make strong links with local industry and most have many years of tradition in doing so."

ACFHE acknowledges that the FE service had problems of its own making. For example, employers and unions were often reluctant to re-examine conditions of service issues.

Fewer part-time students

Part-time day student numbers have fallen by 20 per cent over the past four years while full-time and sandwich enrolments have increased by 39 per cent, according to Government statistics published this week.

The statistics, on the pattern of enrolments for 16 to 19-year-olds between 1978 and 1982, also showed a 50

per cent increase in this age group taking full-time vocational courses. There has been an 81 per cent increase over the past 10 years in the numbers on full-time and sandwich courses.

Enrolments on non-advanced courses of further education, Statistical Bulletin, April 1984; Statistics Branch, DES, York Road, London SE1 7PE.

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OVERSEAS

Pictures painted through tears

EL SALVADOR

The anguish of Salvadorean orphans is expressed in their art. Report by Nick Wood.

Children from El Salvador have given harrowing personal accounts of the war raging in their strife-torn country. Their experiences are contained in up to 100 stories and drawings by children brought back to Britain by an Oxfam worker who recently visited refugee camps in Honduras.

The most graphic, prominently displayed at an exhibition mounted at last week's National Union of Teachers conference in Blackpool, is by a child orphaned by the fighting.

He described how his family was slaughtered by the army. "I am an orphan because my father was killed there in my canton - the soldiers of the Salvadorean army grabbed him and cut off his head without any pity for him."

"And my mother who was pregnant was also killed by the same people. Also my little brother."

"First they beat my mother then they cut off one ear and a bit later they cut off one hand. And like this they tore the baby out of her stomach and grabbed the baby and cut it to pieces with a machete."

"And they tied the other boy who was with mama by his neck and hung him in the middle of the house and set fire to him and my poor little brother was burned black."

"And I who am telling you my story escaped by running alone into the hills."

Similar atrocities are described in

extracts from other children's stories and the accompanying drawings depict helicopter gunships and soldiers attacking peasant houses.

Vilma Campos, the European representative of Andes, the Salvadorean teachers union, which operates on both sides of the constantly shifting battle lines, said that in the four years of war, 327 teachers had been assassinated and 54 had disappeared. More than 3,000 are living in exile.

She told a fringe meeting at the conference that the union was committed to its campaign to build 57 new schools in the "liberated areas" controlled by the rebels of the FMLN-FDR and to reduce the 60 per cent illiteracy rate.

But it faced enormous difficulties. The problem is that the teacher is always in a state of anxiety and tension about her security because every day we are afraid of bombing or direct attack by the government army."

The School for El Salvador appeal launched at last year's conference has now raised nearly £9,000 in Britain towards the estimated £115,000 needed to open the new schools planned for rural areas.



Not a product of a child's fevered imagination but an eyewitness account of the butchery in El Salvador.

Clochemerle strike with a serious side

FINLAND

The first-ever concerted strike by Finnish schoolteachers, which spread on April 16 to include 9,000 staff, has taken on political dimensions, scarcely imaginable at the outset.

Invoking the need to dampen inflation, representatives of the Social Democratic-Centrist government parties on the local authority delegation negotiated pay with the teachers' union, but the union's stance was unyielding. It demanded a 10 per cent increase in pay, a lock-out of all teachers not on strike on May 4.

The parties are preparing for national elections and are determined to make political capital out of a teachers' action - and it is three social democrats who have attracted most publicity.

Mrs Kaarina Suonio, a minister of education, and Mr Erkki Aho, one of the board of education, depicted by a communist cartoonist as "Sapphire and Steel" - were sharply published minutes of a crucial meeting to have inspired the lock-out move.

Paavo J. Paavola, who heads the authority negotiating an increase in salary almost equivalent to the state pay for a teacher, is viewed by strikers as a Gracian.

To detached observers the strike Clochemerle-like features, but in those directly involved the atmosphere is extremely embittered. With little instincts common in the Nordic countries and an inflexibility widespread among Finnish men, Mr Aho was affected by the strike would be able to make up for instruction lost attending school in Finland's best schools during summer or on Saturdays. It cited a statute allowing for a maximum six days' schooling to offset "exceptional circumstances".

Since Mr Aho's own party will never dare advocate such methods in the case of a strike by its own proletarian supporters, and many families affected had already booked summer holidays, the move looked more than slightly sanctimonious. The teachers' union is adamantly refusing to work the extra days.

Donald Field

Providing an umbrella for Comrade Betty

ANGOLA

Tony Russell on the primitive working conditions that teachers of Namibian refugees have to endure.

"Where is your class today, Comrade Teacher?"

"Why, Betty?"

"It is raining. They stay away when it is wet."

It had rained, torrentially, during the previous night and it was easy to imagine the misery of the Namibian refugee children trying to sleep and keep dry in their makeshift homes in the South West Africa People's Organisation's refugee camp of Kwanza Sul, in northern Angola.

Rolling tents, zinc sheets and packing cases are the raw materials of these homes. Most have no windows or doors, and some have floors below ground level, yet they have to afford shelter from the tropical storms which in the rainy season are almost a daily event in this mountainous region.

A few children, those without families in the camp, are lucky enough to sleep in the new dormitories, built with aid from Sweden, but the majority live lives dominated by the weather.

When Betty's children do come to school they have no room, no shelter apart from the trees. Their furniture is crude planks resting on short stakes driven into the ground, and insufficient for the numbers. The blackboard is propped against the tree. The ground is red clay, and unfit to sit on during the rains, so that those pupils who come late have to stand.

In this unhelpful environment, Betty, untrained as a teacher and struggling to master English, the official teaching language, attempts to engage her class in interesting, relevant and comprehensible material.

To help her and her fellow teachers, I and a colleague recently spent four weeks in Kwanza Sul running a lower primary in-service teacher training programme, helping teachers to develop their English and to teach it more effectively.

The education centre offers only primary education and literacy classes - pupils wanting to continue their studies have to compete for prized places in other countries. Large classes of 50-plus, a shortage of materials, and a total lack of storage and display facilities mean that much teaching ends up as chalk and talk.

The language problem is paramount. SWAPO has declared that English is to be the official language of independent Namibia, and so it has been introduced into primary classes. But most teachers have only a poor grasp of the language, and the children come from numerous tribal groups.

As a result, English is often only spoken in school classes and the rate of acquisition is very slow. Because of this, our pilot in-service training programme, funded by the Swedish International Development Agency, concentrated on language teaching methods and the production of materials.

We used books and teaching materials from Britain as models for the production of local materials - mainly short stories written by teachers, printed in booklet form and illustrated by pupils.

Such a short-term, small-scale project seems insignificant when put into the full context of refugee existence, yet in Kwanza Sul the struggle for the independence of Namibia expresses itself in the struggle for education.

In the squalid, dripping conditions of the camp it would not have been unreasonable to find the unlocked classrooms (another product of Swedish aid) invaded each night for shelter, and the desks chopped up for firewood, but it is a sign of hope that it does not happen.

Tony Russell is an in-service training consultant with the Swedish International Development Agency.

OVERSEAS

Texas taxes may give \$1bn boost to schools

UNITED STATES

Peter David on the school reforms designed to woo hi-tech industries to Texas

In a dramatic illustration of the concern with which many states have begun to view their education systems, the Governor of Texas, Mr Mark White, is calling a special session of the state legislature this spring to consider raising an extra \$1,000m (£670m) for schools.

The money, to be produced by new taxes, will pay for sweeping changes in the educational system which have been proposed by a panel headed by Mr Ross Perot, founder of the Dallas-based corporation, Electronic Data Systems. Mr Perot believes that without the reforms, Texas will be unable to attract the new high-technology industries on which its future prosperity depends.

It would cost \$2,400m to implement all the reforms called for by the Perot Committee. "They" include major changes in the way Texas finances and administers its schools - higher salaries and tougher standards for teachers - a range of extensive extracurricular activities and a fixed academic curriculum for all high schools.



Admiral Bobby Inman

The proposals have stirred enormous controversy. Political opposition has focused on a proposal to disband the elected state board of education and replace it with a nine-member panel appointed by the governor. The governor maintains that the change will increase efficiency and raise professional standards. Critics say it will reduce parental control of public education.

Educationally, one of the most controversial measures is a proposal to introduce stringent teacher quality tests, similar to those which have raised an outcry in Arkansas.

Teachers who failed the subject test would be banned from teaching their specialties until they passed. Those who repeatedly failed the basic skills test would eventually lose their jobs. Mr Perot said that only 10 per cent of the state's teachers were likely to be

incompetent - but that represented 20,000 teachers, exposed to 500,000 students a term.

Texas's push for educational reform is tied closely to its ambitious plans to challenge California and Massachusetts as the United States' centre of scientific research and high technology. Last year, Texas won a stiff competition to become the home of the Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corporation (MCC), a 15-company research corporation headed by Admiral Bobby Inman, former deputy director of the CIA.

To lure MCC to Texas, the state governor promised a massive expansion of the computer science department at the University of Texas in Austin, to provide a source of personnel and expertise for the corporation.

Despite the fanfare surrounding MCC's move, however, the new venture has run into unexpected difficulty in persuading leading academics to leave northern and western universities. Admiral Inman recently claimed that one reason for their reluctance was the poor state of Texas schools.

Major reforms likely to become part of the spending plan include increasing the starting pay of teachers from \$11,000 to \$15,000, banning athletic activities during the school day so that more time can be devoted to teaching and eliminating most vocational courses to make way for a standardized academic curriculum.

Chewing over a new cash carrot

Paying teachers by results - in the form of merit pay and master teacher programmes - has been the single most controversial element of the reforms that have emerged over the past 18 months from the United States' great debate on education. Now California has unveiled a dramatic variant of the same theme - paying schools by results.

Under a proposal unveiled this month by Mr Bill Honig, California school superintendent, schools that are shown by a combination of statistical indicators to have improved student performance will receive up to \$50,000 in "merit payments", to spend however they wish.

Mr Honig said the scheme was made possible by big improvements in data collection and processing that would enable the state to provide each school with a detailed profile of its standing in key "quality indicators". They would probably include student test scores, the proportion of students taking the scholastic aptitude test (SAT), dropout rates, enrolment in difficult subjects like physics, chemistry and modern languages, and the amount of homework set by the school.

For each category, Mr Honig said, the state would set a goal. "We hope, for example, that high schools will increase the number of 12th-graders who have taken chemistry from 25 per cent in 1982 to 40 per cent in 1989. We also want to decrease the dropout rate from an estimated 32 per cent in

1982-83 to 25 per cent in 1989-90." After assigning relative weights to the quality indicators, California would reward the schools which perform in the top fifth of their socioeconomic group with a \$50-per-student three-year grant. Similar awards would also be made to the 20 per cent of schools which registered the fastest improvement over a three-year period.

Mr Honig's scheme has yet to be debated by the state legislature and the teacher unions. In the past, teachers have argued that pupil performance is an unfair basis for rewarding schools, because it is affected by many factors beyond the control of teachers. Many headteachers also argue that the schools that perform best are the schools least in need of additional funds.

Mr Honig, however, maintains that if the system is introduced carefully it could provide dramatic incentives for teachers and institutions. He said care would be taken to ensure that the "quality indicators" were equitable, so that schools were measured against counterparts with similar student bodies.

He added: "If we marry the ideas of recognition and performance - based on sound professional standards that are announced in advance - we will have an incredibly powerful engine for school performance."

Peter David

'Fallible' man denies conduct unbecoming a chancellor

Mr Anthony Alvarado, the New York City Schools Chancellor whose finances have been under investigation, has been suspended by the Board of Education and formally charged with 13 counts of misconduct. Several of Mr Alvarado's aides have also been demoted, and school projects he had been working on are being closely scrutinized.

A resolution passed by the Board of Education directed that Mr Alvarado is guilty of a wide range of unethical, unbecoming and potentially criminal conduct that "renders him unfit to perform his obligations properly".

Mr Alvarado borrowed \$90,000 from subordinates, the resolution claims, in an "inherently coercive and frequently deceptive" manner which suggested that he "never intended" to repay the money.

Further, accusations against Mr Alvarado include the approval of two school contracting contracts to individuals who lent him money in "a clear conflict of interest," the use of school employees to paint his house, and failure to report at least \$128,000 in taxable income. The latter is a Federal crime punishable by up to five years in prison.

Formal hearings against Mr Alvarado were suspended on his full salary of \$95,000 a year, due to start in mid-May, and could extend well into next year.

Mr Alvarado has complained of

grossly unfair treatment, and has strongly denied using his office for personal gain. He has promised to defend himself vigorously. In the end, he said, he would emerge as "a fallible human being, but not a venal one".

In his place the Board of Education has appointed the more conservative-minded, 53-year-old Mr Nathan Quinones as acting chancellor.

Mr Quinones has lost no time in making his presence felt. He has been invested with the full power of chancellor, and has begun what seems no less than a purge of Alvarado supporters within the schools system. So far six top school aides have been replaced, including Mr Terry Baker who was hired by Mr Alvarado after loaning him \$9,000, and most of Mr Alvarado's advisers are expected to be demoted.

Mr Quinones has also halted some of Mr Alvarado's plans and begun to implement some ideas of his own. He announced that, of six specialized high schools Mr Alvarado had intended to open this autumn, including schools for finance and for writing and journalism, only one will go forward as scheduled.

Mr Alvarado has protested particularly strongly against these intrusions into his innovations within the school system, and he has received support from people who feel that worthwhile projects are being rejected purely because of their association with Mr Alvarado. Jose Serrano, Democratic Assemblyman and chairman of the Assembly Education Committee, sent a telegram to the board supporting Mr Alvarado's high school redesign programme.

Mr Quinones has also proposed a four-day academic week for city high schools. School days Monday to Thursday would be extended by 90 minutes a day, and Friday would be reserved for assemblies, school clubs, sports, and guidance counselling.

Many parents and elected officials have raised objections to the proposal, saying that they are worried that the four-day week will encourage truancy among the children and absenteeism among the teachers.

Jeremy Gavron

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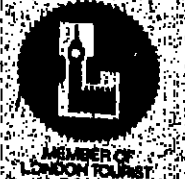
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LETTERS

Speaking out on race carries duty

Sir - Your profile of Bradford middle school head Ray Honeyford (April 13) misrepresents the issue. People do not object to Mr Honeyford's outspokenness but rather to the crudity of his thinking and his apparent failure to consider the implications of his conclusions.

He insists on using the word "immigrant" to describe people born and settled in this country despite its patent unsuitability. His descriptions of people of Asian and Caribbean origin are equally tendentious, hardly likely to encourage the "civilized discourse and respect for reason" that he praises as a British, not black, tradition.

He is just as contemptuous of teachers who have attempted to tailor their curricula to the needs of Britain's multi-ethnic society - "bandwagoners, sloganeers, guilt-inducers, fabricators, zealots and radicals!" No wonder he failed to grasp what is meant by the multi-cultural curriculum and racism, another word like "immigrant" that causes him difficulty.

What people want, says Mr Honeyford, is the very best Western education. But education in the west or elsewhere is not a fixed commodity. Surely Mr Honeyford must have noticed that what is done in schools changes to meet changing needs and circumstances.

The children of Bradford are growing into a multi-ethnic society in a rapidly changing, increasingly inter-dependent world which has to grapple with the effects of traditionally negative views and practices with regard to race. One detects from his article in the *Salisbury Review* little sign that Mr Honeyford has thought of the ill-effects of stereotypes, low expectations and bias on school organization, course content and textbooks. Nor has he considered the new opportunities afforded by living in such a diverse, multi-ethnic society.

Seeking analysis of city conflict

Sir - What was the intention behind your news article "Home truths for racial harmony"? The title suggests that there is or has been a gap between truth and the pursuit of racial harmony and that this gap has been exposed by the illumination of a great light on Ray Honeyford's proverbial journey to Damascus.

The misappropriated and misused literary allusions to the *Emperor's new clothes* suggest from the outset that Ray Honeyford is not only "a man more sinned against than sinning" but of great wisdom and bravery. Was this an attempt at balanced reporting?

Instead of even pretending to present a balanced account, the article in fact offers a space for Honeyford's interpretation of what he calls the "multicultural" education scene in Bradford.

Whether there is any truth in this argument (or in the developing "bureaucracy of race", the vote-catching antics of local politicians, the vague use of the term racism), would not the bias in favour of Ray Honeyford have been less if Bert Lodge had distinguished clearly which were his views and which those of Honeyford, and if Bert Lodge had held up Honeyford's words to scrutiny, especially the article in the *Salisbury Review*.

The lack of analysis of the local context and of any critical assessment in the profile suggest it would be overly charitable to Bert Lodge to think he may have decided that it would be imprudent to quote the inflammatory language of Ray Honeyford's article in this ultra-rightwing magazine.

Godfrey Brandt, Xavier Couillaud, Jadhav S. Gundara, Vazir Saifullah Khan, Anny Pionik, University of London Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London WC1.

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Courses

The British Dyslexia Association offers Teachers a unique opportunity.

Two day courses to introduce Teachers to structured procedures, systematic, sequential and simultaneous multisensory techniques appropriate for teaching the child with Specific Learning Difficulties.

The courses will be directed by Alice Kootz the renowned American tutor and instructor and are planned to be held in Oxford, Bath, Cheshire, Lancashire, York, Bedford, Nottingham, London, Kent, Guildford, Devon, South Wales and Edinburgh during July and August 1984.

Please send S.A.E. for full details to the British Dyslexia Association, Church Lane, Peppard, Oxfordshire OX9 5JN.

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Board of Religious Studies. The Board offers to select three prize winners of £25, £15 and £10 for an essay of not more than 1,000 words on:

Intellectual skill

Sir - We are developing a project financed through the BBC Social Fund, which aims to improve the intellectual abilities of adults in basic education as well as post-basic education. Although a number of cognitive education programmes are being used for school children, not so much has been done using similar methods to improve the thinking skills of the adults with whom continuing education is concerned.

The development of such skills should improve their general approach to life; make them more efficient in the jobs they do, or could do; as well as improving their study skills. Adults need considerable practice in the performance of such skills if they are to remedy any educational deficiencies.

Our main task at present is to produce adequate material for adult students especially those who may be intellectually disadvantaged. Most cognitive educational programmes are directed towards school students and we find this material needs considerable adaptation.

This points to a need for developing new material for this type of student, and we hope to be able to do this. We wonder whether any of your readers have had experience or are interested in the sort of problems facing us in the design of such materials.

We intend to have a workshop/conference at the Manchester Polytechnic on June 27/28, where we will report on the progress made by our project over the last year, and discuss proposed developments. Anyone interested in attending should contact us.

WOLFE MAY (Director), ANNE EVANS (Coordinator), ANNE ARNOLD, GLENDA GOS, RICHARD LEESE and JILL PARTIDGE, Intellectual Skills Unit, Manchester Polytechnic.

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Clear ideas

Sir - In reviewing my book *An Augustan Idea in English Literature*, Katya Watter (TES, January 13) that "In the interests of most readers of English literature, Latin and Greek quotations should appear in translation".

I entirely agree; and in fact not only Latin and Greek quotations but Italian and French ones appear in both original and English translation, with a very few exceptions where paraphrase or context make the meaning clear.

HOWARD ERSKINE-HILL, Pembroke College, Cambridge.

For years those of us working in museums and art galleries have produced a service to education which has been received enthusiastically by Inspectorate, teachers, children and wide range of adults seeking education or leisure pursuits, and yet has been one of the first services to suffer when budget pruning took place.

I am not, however, at this time making a case for additional museum education, useful though it would be, but calling attention to a considerable reduction of services in the metropolitan counties and Greater London, services dealing with as many as 951,100 children and adults annually.

These larger authorities have only funds but are able to study assign qualified teachers to other work programmes in a museum indeed a group of museums in their areas. The prospect of funding from a multiplicity of local authorities gives little cause for optimism if voluntary cooperation is the order of the day as is suggested in the White Paper.

The knife-edge balance between museum education has operated many years will inevitably be of the authorities affected by the cuts and it is depressing to contemplate a situation where the knife, over, cuts into services built up over staking over many years by a dedicated staff who believe that the museum education has an increasing valid part to play in the educational process.

D S SORRELL, Past Chairman for Group for Education in Museums, Matlock, Derbyshire.



Museum study

Sir - I read with interest Elizabeth Goodhew's article on museums as an educational resource (TES, April 20) and would suggest that the article omits mentioning a situation for which, apparently, answers have still to be seriously considered. I am referring to the implications for museum education if the Government's Streamlining the Cities (Command 9063) becomes law.

Industry link

Sir - The article (TES, April 13) in which the Institute of Directors voiced concern about Britain's industrial decline and education's supposed part in this drama, is not original as any review of educational history will confirm. Quite apart from philosophical questions as to whether education is designed to produce workers, the institute can hardly blame schools for sticking to a curriculum based on the liberal arts, when it is still the most effective passport to the top. Perhaps German management is as vocationally able as its workforce, hence its greater efficiency.

Teachers get a great deal of advice from industry although many have no considerable industrial experience. Are there any members of the Institute of Directors who are co-teachers who would have similar dual experience? Cooperation implies a two-way process. Let teachers spend time in industry, let industrialists spend time in schools and let teachers go to industrial boards as advisers. It is unfair to expect teachers to leave industry if industry is unprepared to listen to teachers.

D L CHRISTIE, 38 Wordsworth Drive, Taunton, Somerset.

Looking west

Sir - For a number of years, teachers in the West Country have been fortunate enough to have had contact with Mr W J Emery and his books, published by School Span Ltd. (Central Business Complex, Andrews Buildings, 67 Queen Street, Cardiff CF1 4AY).

His work has been an inspiration to many teachers in the West Country, but because it is not published by one of the major publishers, perhaps it is so well-known elsewhere in the country.

Best Mode

Sir - I'm sure lovely Ms Marjorie Louthouse was the life and soul of her tough Tyneside comprehensive before marketing her talents in television (TES, April 20). But her remarks about the CSE Mode 3, something to "even for indicate either that she's misunderstood or that she's a bit of a misanthrope, or that she's been

misreported. Mode 3 does not refer to a type of CSE characterized by the type of syllabus drawn up by the school itself and approved by boards. It is the most challenging of liberal studies in adult education. Since they are relatively expensive to staff, these courses are particularly at risk.

BLAINE LEVER, Bridge House, Littleton Lovell, Nr Buckingham.

Famous pupils

Sir - I'm putting together a collection of anecdotes about the famous (and infamous) by those who knew them in obscurity. It occurred to me, reading the exchange of letters on Boy George, that your readers would be a likely source of such stories.

Clearly, some of them think it ethically wrong to talk about former pupils. I can only say that I've never come across a celebrity who wasn't happy to talk freely and often libellously about his/her schooldays and all connected with them.

CHRISTOPHER BENFIELD, 22 Grenfell Road, Manchester.

George and the 'dragon'

Sir - Mr Peter Dawson may have been put out by my comment on television referring to him as a "drag queen". But he really should have taken into account the possibility that I might retaliate against his obnoxious press statements, referring to my personal school history as "a waste of time". Mr Dawson made a fool of himself by joining in with the rest of the rabble.

Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

Skills transfer

Sir - Your School to Work page reports a certain scepticism of the use of occupational training families and a skill transfer approach in YTS (TES, April 6). I fear that the article may only partially represent Professor Annett's case.

OTs are no more than a tool for grouping the types of training experience young people may acquire. But far from increasing a concentration on "exclusive trades", the very broad banding of occupational areas into only 11 families must surely promote more varied experience. If YTS is to succeed, it must achieve a balance between variety and work-based training which really will equip young people for employment and adult life.

OTs provide a (perhaps, at present, the only) valid and coherent framework for achieving such balance. We have no clear picture of what the working environment will hold in the year 2000 but we do know that the content of work is changing and that many of today's trainees are likely to face periods of unemployment.

We also know that many managing agents will not employ trainees at the end of the YTS year.

It cannot, therefore, be sufficient that trainees learn to perform effectively in a particular job, or even that the skills they acquire are relevant to other jobs.

Governor training

Sir - How pertinent Glynn Phillips' letter concerning governors (TES, April 6).

As regards governors being prepared to gain extra knowledge about the education system and their powers, our experience in Leicestershire has been very encouraging. In two years, more than 500 governors have attended 32 courses of initial and advanced governor training organized by the Workers Educational Association in conjunction with the Open University and Leicestershire education committees. There is a steady stream of requests for such courses and demands for even more.

As regards persuading heads about the potential of the governors' enhanced role, my experience has been that many are hostile to such a role, seeing governors as mere busy-bodies who are forced upon the school.

Indeed, when I addressed some heads recently describing our programme of governor training, one head commented gruffly, "Huh - they'll be getting degrees in it soon, and expect to be paid".

What is clear though, is that well informed governors are immensely useful to the school in a vast number of ways. We should do all we can to lessen the divide that exists between some teachers and their governing bodies so that all can work to the best advantage of our ever threatened schools.

T F MAHONEY, WEA Tutor Organizer, Vaughan College, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester.

WEA grant cuts

Sir - In the article on the campaign against grant cutbacks to the Workers' Educational Association (TES, April 13), reference was made to the decrease in the number of courses that would result from the cuts. Though some branch programmes would be lost, there are more serious effects.

In some villages the courses provided by the WEA, possibly in cooperation with a university extra-mural department, are the only local source of liberal studies in adult education. Since they are relatively expensive to staff, these courses are particularly at risk.

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LETTERS

Courses

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION President J.A. Barnes M.A., M.Ed., M.Sc., F.R.S.A. The Teachers' Association for In-Service Training, Established 1888

TRINITY COLLEGE CARMARTHEN

Mathematics 5-13; Language Development in the Primary School; The Organisation and Management of a Primary School; Environmental Studies in Primary and Middle Schools; Microcomputers in Schools; Learning and Behavioural Difficulties in the classroom. Infant Education in the eighties; Structure and Content in Primary Schools - New ideas; Music in the Primary School; English Country Morris and Sword Dancing.

Principal: T.W. Hall, M.Sc., Newham Middle School, Balmoral Avenue, Bedford MK40 2PT. Tel: H.0234 44331. Sch.0234 52559

English tests

Sir - I should like to make clear to readers that the letter on graded tests in English (TES, April 20), from Dennis Brook, was originally submitted as a statement composed by him on behalf of the National Association of Advisers in English in reply to Mary Warnock's comments (TES, March 16). It incorporates the views of members expressed at various discussions over recent months.

Mr Brook has for some time generously acted as spokesman for the association on this subject. The assessment of performance in English has always been a central concern; our present reservations are about some of the methods now being advocated. The responses to our original letter to CEOs, examination boards and HMI Inspectorate are encouraging in that other more imaginative methods than graded tests appear to be contemplated. These responses are being collated by Mr Brook, who is English Adviser for Derbyshire; he can be contacted at the Education Advisers' Office, Matlock College of Higher Education, Chesterfield Road, Matlock.

JUNE THEXTON, Secretary, NAAE, English Adviser, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Chinese chop

Sir - The John Mason School, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, a state comprehensive school, has had Chinese language on its timetable from 1963 (under the then headmaster Mr D G E Hurd), and since 1967 it has been a fully integrated subject on the curriculum, being taught to O and A levels (TES, March 23). In fact, the Cambridge University Local Examinations Syndicate created special OCE examinations tailored to the needs of the school.

Now because of economic restrictions set by Oxfordshire education committee, the headmaster, Mr Chris Owen, has had to reduce his staff by approximately five full salaries, and in the difficult process of paring down, Chinese as a minority subject has come under the microscope, and will be phased out of the school curriculum starting from September this year.

As one of the school's previous teachers of Chinese, I am extremely disappointed by this misguided short-term policy on the part of the Oxfordshire education committee. It is possible to measure such a valuable pioneering contribution to our educational practice with any financial yardstick? Apart from its intrinsic value as a worthwhile subject in itself, Chinese gives pupils an introduction into a non-European language and culture, and it also offers an insight into the culture and way of life of one of the ethnic groups in our multicultural society today.

REG HUNT, 26 Richmond Road, Oxford.

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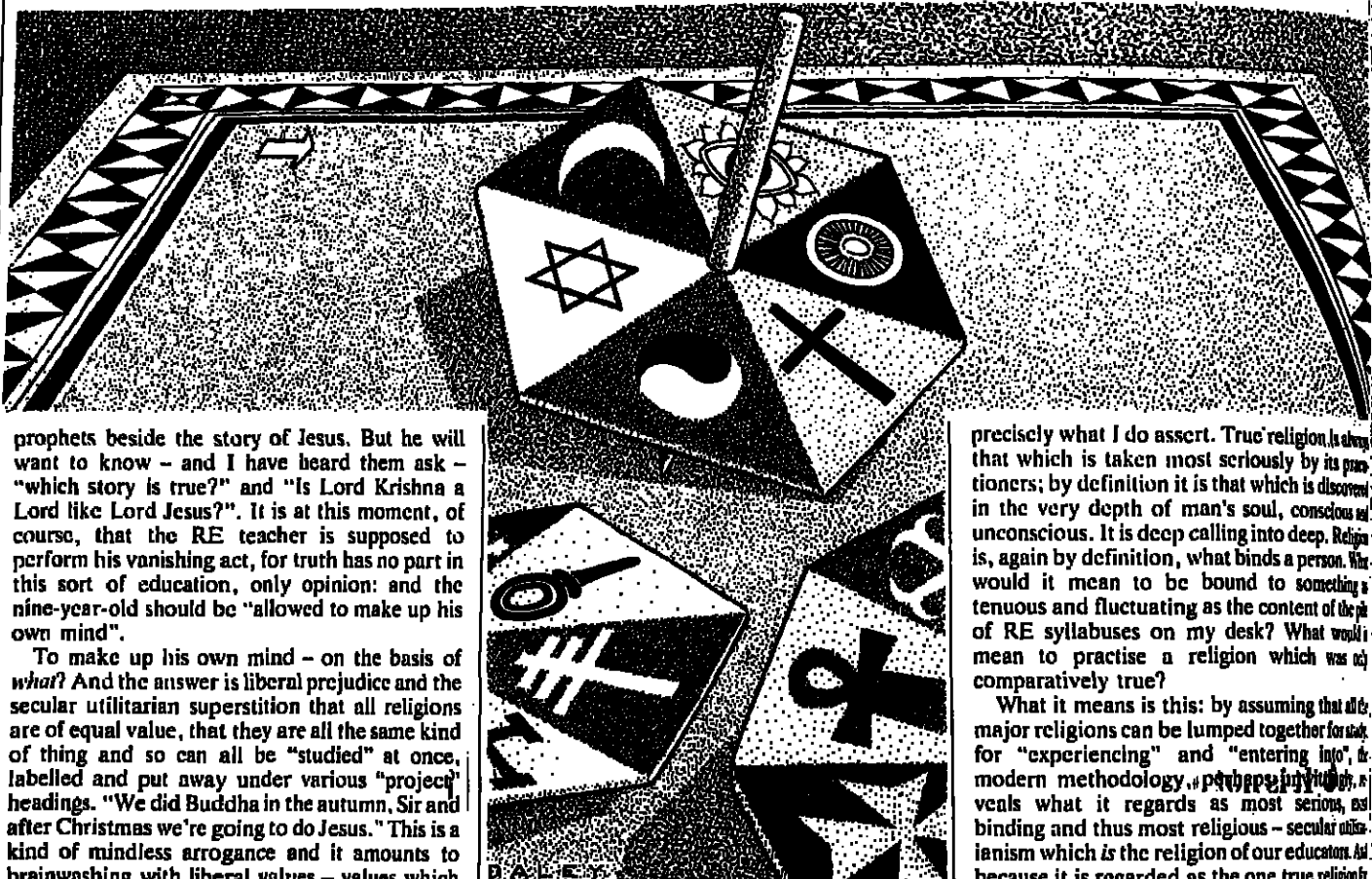
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REG HUNT, 26 Richmond Road, Oxford.

FEATURES

Passing truth by on the other side

Peter Mullen attacks the bogus neutrality of today's RE



There has been yet another call for more RE teachers. Even if they are found, even if Mammam can be persuaded to provide for God, I would like to know what these new teachers will teach. If fashion prevails, the answer must be Everything and Nothing, for the idea has got about that religion is such a touchy subject for modern man in his contemporary enlightenment, that no self-respecting RE teacher dare suggest the Christian faith might be true.

Of course the RE advisers and resource persons – our present day Scribes – will agree that religious faith can be “a valid option” or “an appropriate stance for living”, but, when it comes to the question of truth, they pass by on the other side. This is disappointing: for unless truth is to count as part of the issue, there can never be a way of telling even which life stances are appropriate and which are inappropriate. Our method of RE teaching is to set up a sort of religious bazaar where the pupil can sample not only the major religions but Shamanism, Voodoo, fertility rites, astrology, numerology and the Tarot. I know a girl who did her CSE project on witchcraft. Another was studying the various cults of unreason such as Divine Light, Guru Bhagwan Rajneesh and the Children of God. Are we supposed to think that children in the secondary school – and at the less discriminating end of the intellectual-critical range at that – are able to deal adequately with movements that are potent enough to beguile their older brothers and sisters in university?

On the one hand educational experts tell us how impressionable young people are, but in the

This mindless arrogance amounts to brainwashing with liberal values

matter of RE these same young people are expected to possess powers of judgment to which few adults would aspire. Upper juniors in Sunderland, for instance, study the life of Krishna, and the *Sunderland Agreed Syllabus* admits that this will require consideration of “Indus Valley civilization, life and customs of India, some notion of reincarnation and the role of Brahmins”. Is this to be imbibed before or after morning playtime? In fact, the nine-year-old is going to have to be at it all day because he will find that Muhammad and Buddha are in the syllabus as well. In the case of Muhammad he is asked to pay particular attention to the prophet's attacks on polytheism; in the case of Buddha he must study that founder's previous lives and his enlightenment.

Who is being enlightened here? No one. For the junior school pupil is only confused by being asked to set these stories of eastern gods and

prophets beside the story of Jesus. But he will want to know – and I have heard them ask – “which story is true?” and “Is Lord Krishna a Lord like Lord Jesus?” It is at this moment, of course, that the RE teacher is supposed to perform his vanishing act, for truth has no part in this sort of education, only opinion: and the nine-year-old should be “allowed to make up his own mind”.

To make up his own mind – on the basis of what? And the answer is liberal prejudice and the secular utilitarian superstition that all religions are of equal value, that they are all the same kind of thing and so can all be “studied” at once, labelled and put away under various “project” headings. “We did Buddha in the autumn, Sir and after Christmas we're going to do Jesus.” This is a kind of mindless arrogance and it amounts to brainwashing with liberal values – values which are never scrutinized as closely as the various religions which are so airily packaged, digested or otherwise got rid of.

Moreover, it is a thoroughly sham liberalism since it tolerates religion only up to that point where the practitioner takes his practice as a true and real thing and so begins to offend against the totalitarian blandness of liberalism itself. If anyone doubts this, he has only to consider the controversy over the way Bradford Muslims want to have their meat slaughtered or a dozen other flashpoints which appear as soon as a person takes the practice of his religion seriously in our so tolerant society.

This contemporary Babel in RE all begins from the most impeccable motives. In its comparative religion course, the *Wiltshire Agreed Syllabus* sets out to enable pupils “to enter, as deeply as possible and without premature evaluation, into

the feelings, beliefs and actions of the believer”. This aim, laudable as it sounds, is mistaken in principle. On the basis of what can a person “from the 13-plus range” possibly enter into the very nature of four or five different faiths in that way? Those of us who have tried know that it is difficult enough to enable a child to acquire the feel even of one faith, and that Christianity.

The fact is that religion is cultural. One's culture is one's religion. There now, I have said it: I have stated the one obvious fact about religion which, plain and easy to see as it is, always earns the collectivists anathemas of the liberal utilitarians. What next? I had better be careful or I shall find myself asserting that there are indeed different races and cultures each of which takes sufficiently seriously the items and symbols of its religious history and doctrine as to believe that they are true in an absolute sense. Well, that is

precisely what I do assert. True religion, I argue, is that which is taken most seriously by its practitioners; by definition it is that which is discernible in the very depth of man's soul, conscious and unconscious. It is deep calling into deep. Religion, again by definition, what binds a person. What would it mean to be bound to something so tenuous and fluctuating as the content of the RE syllabus on my desk? What would it mean to practise a religion which was not comparatively true?

What it means is this: by assuming that all major religions can be lumped together for the sake of “experiencing” and “entering into”, modern methodology, as it were, reveals what it regards as most serious, as binding and thus most religious – secular utilitarianism which is the religion of our education. As because it is regarded as the one true religion, modern man in his urban enlightenment, now is ever allowed seriously to question it.

We are obliged to believe that all religions are somehow “equally true”. This is called tolerance. It is also called pluralism. But we have about soon that when any particular class of ideas challenges the dictates of secular utilitarianism then their particular, natural, cultural religion must give way. Our secular educational institutions are in effect saying to religious people: “You can all believe exactly what you like as to individuals, just so long as you don't want to practise any freedom in your religion which is inconvenient for secular institutions.” For liberalism read totalitarianism, be it ever so polite and bland. And the arrogance of that neutral point from which it is supposed pupils can be taught about all religions! The assumption of such a neutral point is itself to go beyond neutrality

Time for action

Isobel Shepherdson looks at the attempts of one school to rescue the work of HMI from ‘the slag heap of curriculum debate’.

include, staff went on to make themselves face the uncomfortable task of ensuring that there was no impact in the classroom.

And impact there was, though it was not achieved without difficulty. Teachers are sharply aware that today's pupils have urgent demands which must take priority over the theoretical needs of tomorrow's pupils; parents and employers insist that young people should have qualifications at the end of their formal education in the subjects of the conventional curriculum (not lessened by falling rolls, spare school capacity, and unemployment); external examination criteria, financial cuts, uncertainty of tenure among staff all had to be contended with.

It may well be argued that it is a sad commentary that what ought to be standard professional practice – staff conferences, department and inter-department meetings, evaluation of courses, customer reaction checks, inter-school visits, regular HMI contact – needs a special inquiry to be adopted in 34 schools and recognized as essential by five I.C.s.

The impact could be even smaller, for red book 3 has its share of protective curriculum clap-net and there are tantalizing hints of participants being at logger-heads about fundamental purposes. It is clear that some saw it as a little exercise which added, mercifully, in 1981, Red book 3 was to be one more hot embers on the slag heap of curriculum debate: the increased weight of the issue showed there had been yet another inquiry.

However, other voices, muted but persistent, can be heard. They insist that curriculum review is not so much a case of an inquiry but more a way

of life: it is a process to which staffs of schools voluntarily submit themselves and then bravely face the consequences of their own findings, working through the implications for the rest of their professional lives. They probably regret the very publication of red book 3, because its inevitable summaries inevitably distort, and because its appearance might suggest that six years are long enough for the process of curriculum review.

I found the owners of some of these voices in the metropolitan borough of Wigan, at Shevington School, sited, conveniently for others interested in these views, about two minutes from the M6. Shevington was involved in the 11-16 curriculum inquiry and is now in the throes of the consequences. The decision of Robert Mason, the head, and the staff to participate turned out to be momentous, but fortunate. If the Shevington experience is typical, then curriculum review is at once, disturbing, demanding and professionally rewarding for teachers and inevitably involves parents, governors and the community. The main beneficiaries are, properly, the other partners in the exercise, the pupils.

Governors said that curriculum matters now form the bulk of the business at meetings. Said one, “I have come to realize that the curriculum is not just three Rs with frills”. Representatives of the BTA (all statutory teachers' makers and likers of envelopes) told of discussions about peace studies, the latest production in the Wigan theatre-in-education programme and the much approved dance company (P. Prop) presentations.

The details of the curriculum to which pupils are entitled may be Shevington people (and

must be) particular to the school. Certainly the stage it has reached in any one area will be an advance of some schools and lagging behind others. What is important is that the school is committed to concerted curriculum review.

How does this show itself? The most obvious demonstration is in the ability and willingness of all staff to talk, to listen and to put their expertise into the context of the whole curriculum and into the business of realizing the improvement product in the one place it matters: the classroom. Robert Mason says that it takes 18 months to put years to create the atmosphere in which the activities of curriculum review can begin. “To get the hearts and minds,” as the report says.

The time factor is crucial. There is an illuminating publication by the borough council called *The Wigan Chapter*. It gives in some detail what involvement meant for the authority and the schools. The local steering group, for example, met more than 60 times for never less than four hours. Shevington couldn't calculate the time given to discussion, debate and argument about the critical examination of present practice, the searching inquiries into department syllabuses and methods of assessment could begin. Small groups have produced and are producing working papers on an ever-enlarging number of subjects.

Task and inquiry have to face the acid test of classroom application so teachers are encouraged to self or, rather, shared assessment of effectiveness. The results (and, one trusts, the efforts) of current curriculum debate might not be obvious before 1985 or later, but the benefits of teachers' heightened awareness of the complexity of the learning process and of their own effectiveness

to pronounce on all religions.

Religion is not a subject which one can learn about. It is much more like learning to read; one learns it by doing it. A child becomes aware of his religion through the constant repetition of a fixed set of ancient stories and prayers which are tied to a regular sequence of ritual observances. This is the same thing as belonging to a culture. It is not something separate from life, it is what creates any particular form of life. Those stories and rituals are the building blocks of the personality. They live within all members of a religion or culture and make those members what they are. And the mind, like nature, abhors a vacuum – which means that one culture can only be denied in the name of another culture. It is, to say the least, not self-evidently true that the culture of technological secularism is of more value than say, English Christianity of the past 400 years.

Current RE theory is based on an entirely understandable desire to take politics out of the sphere of religion. If all faiths can be subsumed beneath the “objective”, “non-prejudiced” utilitarian method of teaching about religion then perhaps the truly contentious issues can be avoided and strife prevented. Perhaps. But there is a price to pay and the price is the effective destruction of religion and culture in the sense in which these were always understood – as forms of life which at the deepest levels themselves form life.

Communism is logical, at least, in defining all religions as equally bad and itself the one true faith. Western liberalism does the same thing only half-heartedly and, as it were, by implication: it says that all religions are equally valuable or

It is not a case of whether RE should be taught but whether it can be

“viable” and then proceeds to say nothing about the value and to limit the viability in terms of the interests of the secular state.

If I have reasonably described the impasse which is the root cause of most of the public rows about RE, the problem remains of what to do about it. For it is not a case (pace the National Society) of whether RE should be taught in the prevailing “scientific culture” but whether it can be taught in any sense which is not mere caricature.

For RE to be properly taught once again, Christian culture would have to be recreated in this country. Perhaps that too is not beyond the scope of education but it is certainly beyond the scope of a short article in an educational journal.

Peter Mullen is the vicar of Tockwith and Bilton with Bickerth, York.

ness, or otherwise, in aiding it, can be enjoyed immediately by today's pupils.

Apart from wit, effort and time, what does curriculum review “cost”? The head of English (which could itself become an out-dated title) said it cost a lot to realize that considerable years of well-intentioned hard work might have been, at best, under-productive and, at worst, counter-productive. Another teacher said, “It costs status. The idea is what must be valued not the position of the originator.” Yet another, “It cost comfort and security. Every answer exposes 20 more questions.” This was almost echoing Isaac Newton. I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the sea-shore while the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

Many of the developments would have occurred without an HMI initiative but Robert Mason is sure that they would have been less coordinated and taken longer. Less coordinated because there would have been little or no inspectorial contribution and the absence of a national perspective is regretted now the inquiry has officially ended. Slower because the authority would not have been so committed to the work and its implications. Shevington staff appreciated the support of Wigan's director of education, Charles Hopkinson, and the senior adviser.

There are, of course, serious financial implications if real curriculum review becomes a national habit. It may be more expensive to provide the variety of teachers required to staff according to the dictates of the curriculum rather than simply the falling numbers on the school roll. It is also necessary to increase the proportion of non-teaching time. With more time, more could be done, not simply by giving a few teachers lots of it, but by giving all teachers more.

The three reports usually known as the red books were published by HMSO for the Department of Education and Science and were each called *Curriculum 11 to 16* and subtitled *A contribution to current debate* (1977). A joint study by HMI and the I.C.s (1981) and *Towards a statement of curriculum 11 to 16* by the same group (1982) are also available.

Land of rising sums

Children of Japanese workers in Wales find a welcome in the hillside but have to do extra language and maths work to keep up with contemporaries back home, Iola Smith reports.

At nine o'clock every Saturday morning 50 Japanese pupils arrive at Howardian High School, Cardiff which, for one day a week, becomes the Welsh Japanese School. In their local British schools they are taught in English but on Saturdays only Japanese is spoken.

As Iwao Tosaki, the headmaster, explains, “Our aim is very simple. We teach Japanese language and culture so that the pupils won't suffer educationally or socially when they return.”

The school has been open for two years thanks to the support of parents who pay the teachers' salaries, supply books, supervise the children on the coach which brings them to Cardiff from the Sony factory in Bridgend, and even provide refreshments for the teachers' break. The school also receives a small grant from the Japanese Government.

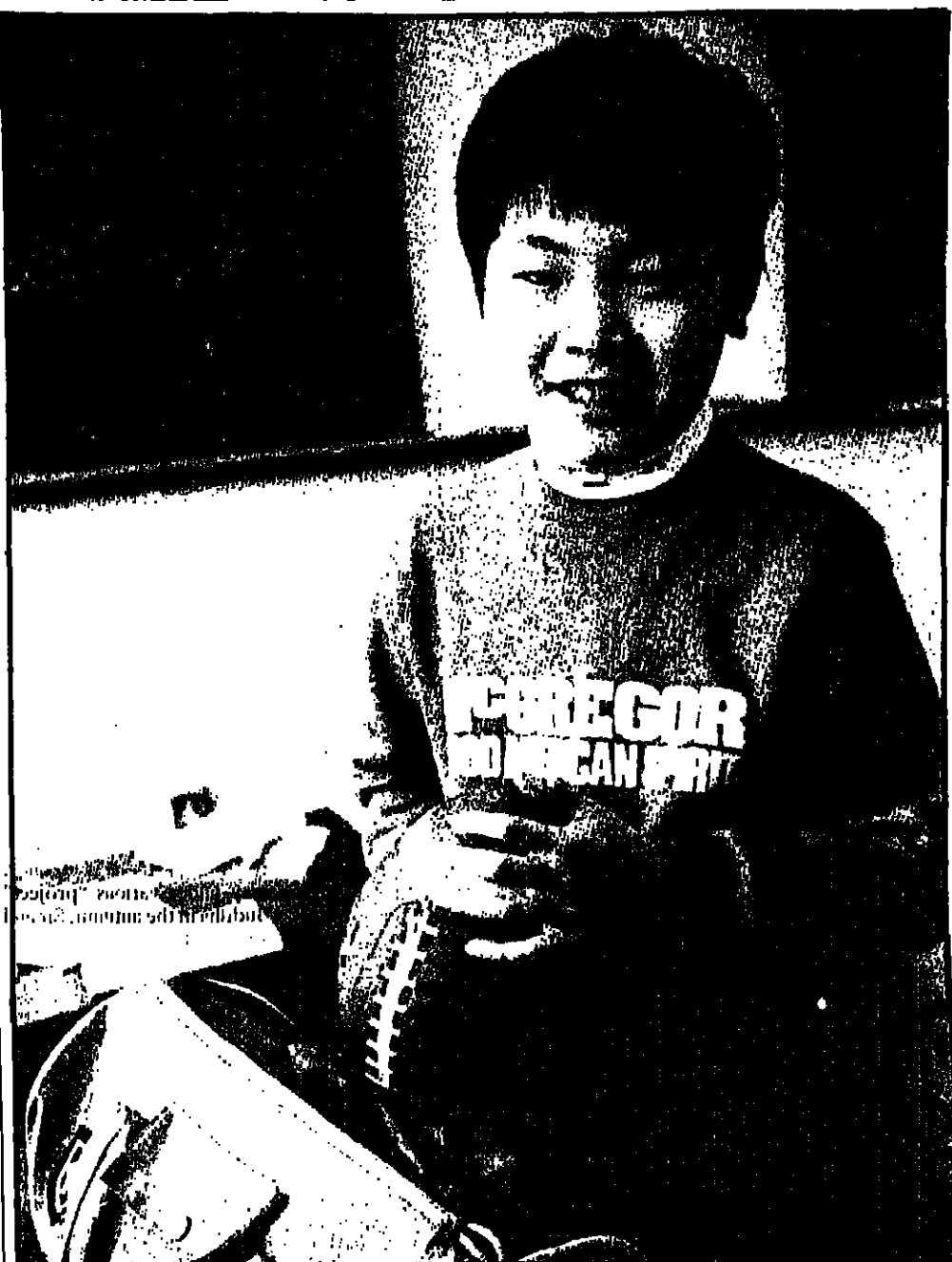
The pupils, ranging from six to fifteen years, are divided into seven classes, each with its own teacher. Most of the teachers work on weekdays in one of the seven Japanese companies in South Wales. Midori Matsui is a qualified teacher but is also a purchasing executive with Taitron UK in Mid Glamorgan where she works alongside some of the parents. Iwao Tosaki came to Britain especially to lead the school.

Although the building is provided by South Glamorgan education authority, teaching materials like charts and work cards are made at the school and books are imported from Japan. The school's library of 300 Japanese books is essential says the head, “Because it reinforces our language classes as well as encouraging the children to read widely”.

All pupils attend the language and culture lessons held during the morning. The afternoon's activities are optional but most diligently stay on throughout the day. They are taught a variety of subjects including science, social studies and maths. “We work very hard in maths otherwise the children will have difficulty in catching up with their classmates in Japan,” explains Midori Matsui. When pressed on the shortcomings of British maths teaching, however, she eventually says “it's just different”.

Families stay in Wales for an average of three or four years. Some, however, remain much longer and one or two of the younger pupils were born here. They're completely bilingual and often act as interpreters for their mothers.

Being part of two cultures seems to pose no problems. They switch easily from one to the other as the occasion demands. Some even learn basic Welsh, and on St David's day (March 1) they proudly wear daffodils and Welsh hats.



Perhaps it helps that both Wales and Japan are rugby-playing countries.

The following Saturday they celebrate the Japanese Girls' Festival by learning the folk songs associated with that day. “Sadly, we can't have the traditional parties in Britain,” says Midori Matsui, “because the rice wine Shirozake is unavailable over here. But we do our best to give the children an insight into Japanese folk customs.”

Assembly is regarded as an important part of the school day. Taking place mid-morning it's an opportunity for staff and pupils to get together. Very little time is spent on announcements. The school prefers to sing songs and recite Japanese poems.

Reading aloud is an important part of the younger children's language studies, and their enthusiasm brings textbook plays to life. Although discipline is strict in Japan, this school does not appear harsh. “The only rule the children object to,” says the head, “is that which forbids them to eat sweets in class”.



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The kingdom of childhood

Forgotten Children: Parent-Child Relations from 1500 to 1900. By Linda A. Pollock
Cambridge University Press £25.00, 0 521 250099, £9.50, 271339.

The history of childhood, once an almost completely neglected topic, has finally come into its own. From 10 books and articles per year in the 1930s, at least 900 important contributions to it were published between 1971 and 1976, and even more since. During this time, controversial interpretations of child history have not always stayed at a remote academic level. Ever since Philippe Ariès produced his pioneering, best-selling *Centuries of Childhood* in 1962, making not always favourable comparisons between the modern and medieval family, other scholars have also joined in the general debate about childhood today and yesterday. Ariès himself, for example, drew attention to what he saw as the gradually increasing tyranny of parents and school in the life of children. More dramatic was the claim made by some other historians, suggesting that the way we now expect most mothers to love their babies, far from being an eternal phenomenon, is in fact a fairly modern concept. For medieval mothers, we were told, once behaved comparatively indifferently towards their offspring, showing them neither concern nor care during their lives and very little grief at their frequent demise.

But although this particular charge was quickly taken up and often repeated since, especially by non-historians, the research from which it derived has always been challenged. The former practice of wet-nursing, for example, sometimes used as evidence of mothers' past neglect of their own babies, has been traced in many cases to sheer economic necessity, in that it enabled mothers in time of need to continue providing for their older children through working outside the home. The existence of swaddling, where babies were left immobile and unattended for hours at a time, also seems an unreasonable example to take of maternal callousness, given the dangers there were for toddlers roaming around dirty floors they might

otherwise have to share with animals during times when mother was again forced to be absent.

It is also now thought that the occasional savage beating once regularly visited on so many children does not necessarily exclude the existence of more affectionate concern co-existing at the same time. The charge that parents normally showed little grief at the deaths of their children, given so many were to die before the age of five, again seems questionable. To imagine that high infant mortality automatically inhibits the growth of feeling is to deny contemporary examples of loving care found in impoverished, large families in the Third World. And as for those parents from our own past who did not dress up for their children's funerals or sometimes even appear at them (another accusation occasionally made by modern historians) they could equally have been too poor to take the time off or to spend any extra money on black clothing.

Even so, really tangible, sustained proof of more humane parental reactions from long ago have still been hard to come by, leaving the field clear for various horror stories about former mothers and babies to be repeated over and over again. This omission, however, has now been made good by Dr Pollock in her present study, *Forgotten Children*. Working patiently through a host of British and American diaries and autobiographies written between 1500 and 1900, she has no difficulty in finding frequent examples of parental tenderness and concern over every aspect of a baby's existence. From these, it is clear that some parents have always boasted over the progress of their infants, disliked the idea of corporal punishment and wept inconsolably over any untimely death. Far from possessing no concept of childhood — one more dubious charge occasionally made against them — such parents were quite conscious of their children as immature beings necessarily inexperienced in the ways of the world and understandably egocentric in their early behaviour. The warmth with which each party often regarded the other during childhood as recorded in these pages is unmistakable and unchallengeable.

Had Dr Pollock been content to

leave the argument there, having proved the existence of at least some more loving attitudes towards the young in the past, her book could not be faulted as a well-documented if somewhat laboriously written study of an important subject. But her desire to prove the essential continuity of parental care and concern for all children throughout history leads her to overstate the position. As it is, her primary sources are usually drawn from middle or upper-class homes, where there would have been the time and opportunity to keep a diary in the first place. Welcoming a new baby into an affluent, well-supported environment is one thing, but wide-spread hunger and disease at the other end of the social scale do not normally make for a cheerful pregnancy, and cramped housing can help impose quite different parental styles. When it is impossible to send a disruptive child from the one living-room, a cuff or a shout is often the obvious alternative; when a child insists on playing rather than working, adult understanding can give way to something more violent if that work is essential for the family's economic survival.

Such parents could still be loving, especially where babies or selected favourite children were concerned, but there would not have been time to give everyone else in the family similar attention. In fact, evidence from working-class autobiography and oral history, neglected in this study, suggests that today's ordinary kissing and hugging between slightly older children and mother could once be quite rare except perhaps in the case of nursing a child through illness. And if life was often exceedingly tough at the bottom, it could also be less amiable at the top for children at the hands of those other parents who fall outside the necessarily self-selective, introspective tribe of diary-keepers on which this study rests. These, by contrast, sometimes clearly bullied and under-fed their progeny with impunity but in a way that today would certainly engage the attentions of the NSPCC, before packing them off smartly to what they often knew to be very much the same treatment elsewhere at school.

Nicholas Tucker



Blue Hmong family — one of over 700 colour illustrations in *Peoples of the Gold Triangle* (Thames and Hudson £18.00) by Paul and Elaine Lewis — a fascinating study of the six culturally distinct tribes who inhabit a corner of Southeast Asia more commonly known for its opium and heroin traffic.

Abuse of power

Humans seem to be unique among animals for the damage they inflict on the psyches of their young. Violence begets violence, the beaten children of one generation become the child-beaters of the next. From the humiliated and ridiculed child grows the adult hungry to humiliate and ridicule in turn. Is it the suppressed anger we never allowed to voice which perpetuates the violence, because at the same time as suffering at their hands or their belts or their slippers, we were required to love and admire our oppressors? Alice Miller thinks so. (*For Your Own Good*, Faber £8.50, 571 13162 X). She attacks the "poisonous pedagogy" by which for generations children particularly in Germany have been by both parents and teachers, cowed, beaten, and terrorized into submission. She is convinced that it's this kind of conditioning that produced Germany under Hitler who were prepared to inflict the cruellest tortures in the name of necessary and salutary punishment, while congratulating themselves on their stoicism. They were successfully modelling themselves on the admired authority figures of their childhood. Meanwhile the rest of their generation fell back into the childhood mould of slavish adherence to a ranting, posturing, and violent parent figure.

Self-destruction and deviance are explained by the pattern of violence as well. Christiane F., the young heroin addict whose autobiography was recently documented on television, had been mercilessly beaten by her father, just as Hitler had been by his. Christiane's case the violence turned inward. Jürgen Bartsch, child murderer and suicide, had been beaten by his foster mother as a baby, locked in a cellar for long periods as a child, sexually assaulted by the same priest who tormented pupils with visions of hell in the harsh Catholic seminary where he boarded from the age of 12, and sent back there when he ran away. Mary Bell in England had survived four murder attempts at the hands of her mother before, at age seven, she successfully killed two children herself. Whether blame can be attached to parents, to parents' parents, however far backwards the chain of violence stretches, is immaterial; the point is, it must be broken. Verbal humiliation is just as damaging as physical.

It's time we thought more about children's rights anyway, thinks lawyer M. D. A. Freeman (*The Rights and Wrongs of Children*, Frances Pinter £6.95, 0 85187 226 6), but the problem is agreeing on what they should be. Behind the legal definitions and the apparently arbitrary and inconsistent age limits lie not just historical accidents but real ethical problems. Should a child have the right to earn from its labour, for instance, to lessen the dependence on adults whose ma-

terial support may be lacking? Or would this lead to more exploitation and less protection? What seems to come out of this book most strongly is an attack on child-abuse which parallels the sentiments of *For Your Own Good*. Children must be protected, respected, and if necessary the state must interfere far more than it has traditionally done between parent and child, in order to prevent the abuse of parental power.

For the abuse of power and the failure of respect may arise from the purest of motives, as perhaps it did with Bobby. (Bobby: Breakthrough to an autistic child, by Rachel Pinner, Harvill Press £7.95, 0 00 27206 1). Bobby lived in a New York apartment block with his parents and year younger brother Billy. When they climbed up the window a metal grille was put over it. When they played with each other a new lock denied them access into the bathroom. They were locked into their bedroom by night and into the apartment by day. When they escaped from the apartment they were caught and returned in the custody of the block security guards. On one excursion with their mother into the outside world they were seen as their pushchair. When they rejected toilet training and played with their excrement, they were seen into the clothes. And all this by way of punishing the name of punishment.

By the time Bobby was four and Billy was three, Bobby had become autistic, unable to make contact with anybody except Billy, in a language of his own. Billy was saved by a remarkable English doctor, Rachel Pinner, the author of this account, whose patience, determination and dedication enabled Bobby to break out of the damaged consciousness in which, like the apartment, he was imprisoned.

With a band of equally dedicated helpers she devoted herself to facilitating for him the experience of infancy he'd never had. She held sessions giving her total attention to Bobby, never initiating speech or activity, doing what he wanted to do, introducing him to liberty and the control of his environment. There were setbacks but there were breakthroughs but Bobby began to relate to his helpers, to act out with them the feelings he'd never expressed before, to empathize and communicate with other people.

By the end of nine months Dr Pinner was on her way back to England, leaving the continued care of Bobby to others in her team. Ironically it was a security guard who said to her as she left, "I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for what you've done for that boy."

Jessica Sarag

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Foreword: H. Kay, Vice-Chancellor, University of Exeter
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T. Popkewitz, University of Wisconsin-Madison
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R. G. Burgess, University of Warwick
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THE 14-19's

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R. Fiddy, University of East Anglia
1983 220p £6.25 s £11.90 h

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Edited by G. F. Campbell, University of Southampton
Spring 1984 480p £12.95 s £18.50 h (approx)

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Lynn Davies, University of Birmingham
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T. A. Edwards, City of Bath Technical College
Spring 1984 195p £6.95 s £10.95 h (approx)

Rethinking Transition
Edited by C. Varlaam, Goldsmiths' College, University of London
Summer 1984 170p £6.25 s £11.95 h (approx)

Comprehensive Schooling: A Reader
Edited by S. J. Ball, University of Sussex
Summer 1984 310p £9.48 s £16.95 h (approx)

Young Children with Special Educational Needs: A Survey of Educational Arrangements Made in 61 Nurseries.
Free copies are obtainable from the Department of Education and Science, 085522 136 4.

This report covers a survey by HMIs of the educational arrangements made by 61 nurseries in 10 L.O.s for young children with special educational needs. Havens of good practice were

discovered; but the general tone is critical. The difficulties may be given a threefold categorization — procedural, teaching and external.

"Procedural" refers to areas of professional activity which precede and succeed the teaching situation, and covers the setting of aims and objectives and the processes of assessing and recording. Only a third of the nurseries formulated a statement of intent about the curriculum and some of these amounted to little more than the provision of information to parents of newly admitted children. Systematic assessment was rare, with little concession made to the notion that children with special needs may require a different form of assessment to other children. Record-keeping was of poor quality with observations made infrequently and statements tending to be vague and general.

The ordinary nurseries seemed unwilling to modify their general arrangements to meet the requirements of children with special needs. Occasionally extra time was spent with them, but frequently for no clearly defined purpose and with no change of teaching strategy. The idea of personal programmes of activities for children was said to be "quite new to teachers", even those working in nursery classes in special schools.

The cumulative impact of these difficulties may negate much of the value of attendance. The report notes "the difficulty of distinguishing the influence of nursery education from normal maturation" and it is suggested that "in some schools the teachers seemed quite unaware that the needs of the children were not being met and were content just to keep them occupied".

A Dictionary of Religious Education

Edited by John M. Sutcliffe

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THE GROWING EDUCATION PUBLISHER

BOOKS

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Homecoming. By Cynthia Voigt. Collins £6.95 (hardback) 0 00 1843060. Dickey's Song. By Cynthia Voigt. Collins £3.95 (paperback) 0 00 1841483.

The first words of Cynthia Voigt's stylish trilogy about the Tillerman children turn out to be the last they ever hear from their sad, mad, well-meaning mother, as she abandons them in a parking lot. "You be good. You little ones, mind what Dickey tells you." Thirteen-year-old Dickey, the eldest of the four, has been given the address of their only known relative, Great Aunt Cilla, so they head south to Bridgeport, Connecticut, where another nasty surprise (needlessly divulged by the blurb) awaits them, before the discovery of an unexpected refuge in distant Maryland.

Despite its title, *Homecoming* is principally about homelessness and the efforts of the resourceful Dickey to keep her brothers and sister together among strangers, without breaking the law. While eking out a hungry and

Band of pilgrims

hazardous existence as hobos, squatters, odd-jobsbers and scavengers, in the wilderness along the margins of Route 1, they have a few lucky breaks. On the beach, fish leap to their dangling hooks; in a university town, students offer shelter. As always, a circus troupe can use some wits and strays: where would picaresque fiction be without the traditional hospitality of the Open Road? But the travelling is convincingly hard, the sleeping vividly rough, and the landscapes so authentic that one could wish for a map of the East Coast, in order to trace the rivers and highways, junctions, parks, cemeteries, service stations, bus depots and creeks along the Chesapeake Bay that mark the progress of their quest.

It is better to travel lonesomely in literature than to arrive at a settled, all-American identity. In the sequel, *Dickey's Song*, winner of the 1983 Newbery Medal, the pioneers set about cultivation. (The main harvest will presumably, come later in the promised third volume.) The quirky individuals we have met previously now integrate with their peer groups, adjust, mature, meet norms, sort them-

self out. Maybeth, the slow-learning nine-year-old, gets her dyslexia fixed. Dickey acquires a bra and a boyfriend, and modernizes the village store. The anxious Catholics depicted in *Homecoming* are forgotten in a pious orgy of community hymn-singing. Grouchy Gram, that embittered loner, touched by the plight and softened by the charm of her descendants, grows apple-cheeked and twinkly-eyed, mingles reminiscence with folk-wisdom, tidies up the farm, joins the PTA.

"Dickey looked around at all of them and a lump formed in her throat. They were all here - and Momma too." By this time, Momma is contained in a tasteful wooden box decorated with a band of dark walnut, and donated by the craftsman who carved it. A martyr to the pride of a family which has always shunned "charity", Momma had steadfastly refused to claim Welfare benefits: false destitution, dementia and death. "Let that be a lesson to us," I thought, hoping, as they buried her at the old homestead, that readers of eleven and upwards would see it my way.

Marion Glastonbury

Love your computer

A Beginner's Guide to the BBC Micro. By Richard and David Graves. Kingfisher Books £2.50. 0 86272 096 6. **Computing for all the family with a BBC Computer.** By Tony Noble. Sigma Technical Press £6.45. 0 905104 58 7. **The Friendly Computer Book.** By Jonathan Inglis. BBC Publications £4.50.

The manual that comes with a micro-computer is a very peculiar animal indeed. It almost invariably suffers from a conflict between its many roles: beginner's introduction to computing; introduction to the use of the particular design of machine for those who have been used to others; reference manual that should tell the advanced user how everything can be done, and many more. The outsider may not realize the difficulties its authors have laboured under; for the authors probably never had a machine to experiment with, the designers would often not let them know how something was planned to work for fear that, once set down in black and white, it would be impossible to change.

It is no surprise that the user's manuals are perceived not to serve the demands of the beginner, and that two years or so after micros appear on the market, there then appear books to tell the beginner how best to use them. These three fit this market well and their content is accurate as far as I can see, and would be of serviceable assistance to any beginner.

A Beginner's Guide to the BBC Micro. (I notice that there is a companion *SPECTRUM* book), uses all the skills of a children's information book; cartoons, illustrations with extensive descriptive captions; problems; reminders. There is also a commendable attention to detail and programming style that sets the beginner off in the right direction. I have one criticism. REPEAT is introduced as shorthand for a particular shape of GOTOs; I find it counterproductive to introduce a bad way of programming before a good one. After all the effort expended on the bad one, the reader is inclined to be unwilling to abandon it. *Computing for all the family* is what it says, and therefore goes further than *A Beginner's Guide*, but no less carefully and clearly. It has some sensible remarks to make about program design and various classes of application programs. Its exposition of the BBC's VDU commands and the various modes is the best I have seen, and would be a good, though not quite exhaustive, preliminary to the reference section of ACORN's user guide; there is a useful summary of a few of the most useful of the operating system FX calls. At the back there are some excellent prog-

rams to type in and, though I make an index, the table of contents is quite extensive.

The Friendly Computer Book is the only one in this batch that is not dedicated to a particular machine, but therefore restricted to that part of BASIC that is common to all, and to some regular rules of modification for the varying dialects of the various manufacturers. I don't think that such a book can be as useful as one dedicated to a particular machine, but within this limitation Mr Inglis does a first-rate job.

John Lask

Batsford keeps abreast with Today's world, a thought-provoking series which encourages discussion of current world affairs. Social, economic and political issues of today are clearly and sensitively introduced for the 14-17 year old reader, in books which provide thorough background material and contain informative, rather than merely graphic, illustrations.

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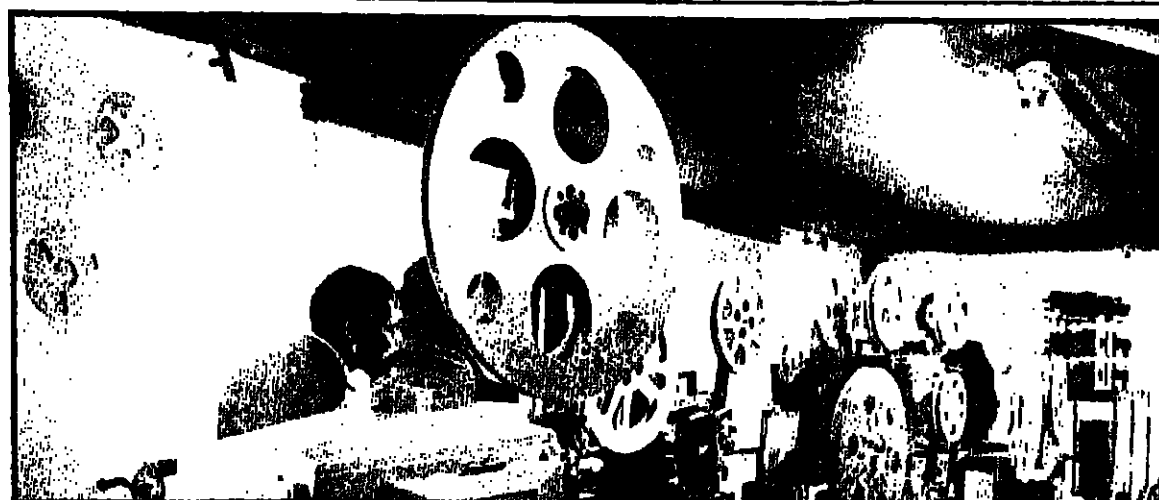
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RESOURCES



ROLL ON, AV

Bill Hicks discovers a fashion-conscious industry at the Audio Visual 84 exhibition in London

entertainment from 54 television screens, driven by at least two video-disc players. But a CAT installation could cost upwards of, say, £40,000. For a more modest £1,475, another exhibitor, Interactive Video Learning, will provide a basic interactive video authoring package, including software for Apple II or IIe computers, and all the advice, instruction and maintenance back-up needed for the interactive instructor to create his or her first course. IVL has concentrated on cassette, rather than video-disc-based systems, and is now working on software for the BBC Micro and IBM PC.

Interaction was, happily, not all that was on view at the Wembley exhibition. Even now, the bread-and-butter of the a-v industry is in slides, audiocassettes, overhead projectors, marker boards and good old-fashioned non-interactive film and video.

An interesting product for 35mm slide users was Polaroid's new five-minute "instant transparency system". Using a special Autoprocessor kit, and one of three new Polaroid transparency films (colour, black and white and high-contrast line films are available),

the system combines the speed of Polaroid with the flexibility of 35mm SLR photography - any camera, can, of course be used. The snag, as always, is the price. Even when bought in bulk (more than 120 rolls) the colour and black and white films work out at £9.40 for a 36-exposure cassette, while the processor unit and slide-mounting device are available for about £84 plus VAT.

Polaroid was also into the interactive mode, however, with its "Palette" computer image recorder. This £1,120 package contains a "diskette" of business graphics software, an exposure unit, 35mm auto-advance camera back, instant transparency processor, instant print camera, and connections for IBM PC or Apple computers. It provides a relatively painless introduction to the almost boundless uses of computer graphics, which were being demonstrated to great effect by a number of companies at AV 84, notably Logica UK which is now marketing the BBC's extraordinary "Flair" system. Using Flair, a non-computer literate artist can produce elaborate artwork, with 256 colours and a

claimed 16 million shades at his/her disposal, working with stylus and tablet similar in appearance to a normal drawing board.

Another trend at AV 84 was the wider adoption of big-screen video projection systems. Thomson, ITT and Rank Video were among manufacturers displaying new systems aimed at both educational and industrial markets, most stressing their applications for computer as well as video presentations to large groups of students.

Rank Video Systems' Hi-Beam 250 system, for example, costing £4,400, will project a picture up to 10ft across; it is also highly versatile, portable and offers a surprisingly bright and well-defined image. All the examples of projection TV I saw at the show represented a considerable advance on equivalent products of two years ago, but their price has still not fallen in line with expectations.

Other products of individual note included Harimex Audio-Visual's Soundpac, a variable-speed audiocassette recorder. The machine incorporates patent circuitry, developed

by the VSC Corporation, which allows twice-normal speed playback of any voice tape without the "chipmunk" effect so dreaded by broadcasters. The idea is to provide an a-v equivalent of speedreading, and for those bright enough to learn at twice the speed of speech, it is undoubtedly a boon to language learning (price £127.50).

Gordon Audio-Visual, celebrating its 25th anniversary, had a good crop of new products on display, including an "electro-photographic" instant 35mm transparency producer to produce monochrome 35mm slides from text in 35 seconds (price £675 for the camera/processor unit). Although aimed at office users, the unit clearly has applications wherever crisp, black-and-white or toned slides of text and diagrams are needed in a hurry.

Although primarily a hardware exhibition, AV 84 this year had a notable software exhibitor in the presence of CFL Vision which had all three of its substantial 1984 catalogues ready for the exhibition: *Film and Video for Education*, *Film and Video for General Interest*, and *Film and Video for Industry, Commerce and Public Services*. CFL Vision is also handling ILEA's extensive catalogue of materials for teacher education for national distribution. One of the latest titles offered to schools is a series of six tape-slide or videocassette programmes produced by the education service of the Houses of Parliament, covering all things legislative, governmental and democratic. They are aimed at 14 to 16-year-old CSE students in particular.

A large section of the AV show which I have hardly touched on covered hardware for the rapidly growing independent TV production industry: professional video cameras and recorders and lightweight ENG equipment made by JVC and Hitachi, for example; the sophisticated graphics and character generators launched by 3M, and the whole gamut of professional studio audio and lighting hardware, were to be seen.

In this class - but perhaps also with wider applications in education - was the now-famous Autocue company which was demonstrating a number of devices designed to lend politicians, company chairmen, and perhaps even the oratorical skills of an Oscar Wilde, a Churchill or a Bronowski.

Lament

Yanomamo
World Wildlife Fund
Cassette £5.50 p&p; vocal/piano score
£5 from WWF, 11-13 Ockford Road,
Godalming, Surrey

We should weep for Brazil; for the Indians of Brazil who are being, still, exterminated by guns and disease and modern civilization; for the children in the shanty towns who die at the rate of one a minute; for their parents who are lucky to live to 40; for the great rain forests which are being destroyed for the profit of big companies, a million acres a year for the growing number of extinct species of flora and fauna; and for the world which will suffer extreme changes of climate in the next decades if this process is not reversed.

There is cause for weeping. Two Lancashire teachers have gone a good step beyond tears and have written a rather stirring lament in the form of a musical.

Yanomamo is the name of a Brazilian tribe. Without much of a plot, a narrator relates the recorded performance by pupils of St Augustine's RC High School, Billington with comments on the ecology, economics and politics of the jungle today as they affect this tribe in particular. The songs are well sung and it is not surprising that many schools already are following suit and performing the musical on the stages. Influences of Lloyd-Webber and Rice are strong but positive. Without emotion it is easy to dismiss what happens to 70 million people across a wide ocean as "in another country". Today, of course, between global ecological concerns on the one hand and global business interests on the other, there hardly are any other countries. And if there were, we should find they were inhabited by people just like us. You couldn't find a better way of discovering this to pupils than getting them to participate in

Victoria-Neumark

Historical flashpoints

The Cuban Missile Crisis 1962
The Kennedy Assassination 1963
Guernica 1937
Cassette/Filmstrips
£11.75 each + VAT

Audio Learning/Historical Association, Unit 1, The Works, 105a Torrington Ave, London NW5 2RX.

These programmes focus on decisive moments in twentieth century history. Two of the "flashpoints" were closely linked; John F Kennedy starred one year as saviour of the world and burned right out the year after.

The Cuban Missile Crisis is presented in terms of Krushchev trying it on. The new American President was inexperienced and youthful, not qualities Russians noticeably go for in their own leaders. He was unbalanced, hadn't resisted the building of the Berlin wall, and had come badly unstuck at the Bay of Pigs. Krushchev reckoned that even if the Russians managed to maintain only one or two of their Cuban sites in secret, they would still end up with a new capability

of hitting New York, on a par with the American threat from Turkey.

The strip shows maps of strike capacities, contemporary aerial photographs and press cuttings, all padded out just a bit too much with monotone mugshots - the world was still black and white in the 60s - of the protagonists. There is certainly food for thought here for anyone interested in war and how to avoid it (peace being officially a dirty word nowadays). The argument is that it was America's numerical superiority in weapons which forced Krushchev to back down. What would have happened if it had been Russian strength which was superior? On rival conjectures about such a situation, hinges the whole unilateralist debate.

This was a war that didn't happen. *Guernica* is about one that did. The author suggests that this is one instance where moral judgments do have a place in history. Detached explanation of how and why war can lead to such monstrous inhumanity is not enough; we must condemn. The strip begins with Dalí's horrifically portentous "Premonition of Civil War" and ends

with Picasso's anguished compassion for the total desolation of the human spirit which *Guernica* represented. If ever art can illustrate history it is here.

The violence of Kennedy's assassination was on a different scale, but his death was a public one, the first media assassination. It is used here to discuss problems of evidence and interpretation. The photographic evidence includes cine stills which the FBI discovered they'd printed - or had they? - in the wrong order, and an onlooker's shot shown first whole, then as cut down in the Warren Report to exclude the outsiders whose evidence the Warren Commission also excluded.

Similarly equivocal eyewitness accounts are included on the cassette, which marries with the visual evidence perhaps the best of all three programmes. As a historical whodunnit it is a success, but it allows no pity for the death of a man who, whatever else, one of the last symbols of hope and progress in our lifetime.

Jessica Saraga

notes

COMPUTERS IN DESIGN AND SAFETY

Last week BP and MEP (the Microelectronics Education Programme) launched an attractive new video pack on the application of computers in the real world of industry.

Aimed primarily at 14 to 16-year-olds, the two video programmes record BP's

use of computers in the design of the Magnus oil rig in the North Sea and the security of its personnel. They come complete with teacher guides, background information and activity sheets.

"Designing Magnus" demonstrates the essential role of computers in assessing geological and weather conditions, designing the rig, placing it on the seabed and resolving problems that actually arose in the process. The programme has already won an ETA Award from the British Council.

The second programme, "Personnel Movement Systems", demonstrates clearly how magnetised identity cards facilitate security checks on staff moving

to and from the oil rig. The simple linear process of checking out at one computer terminal and in at the other is inevitably less dramatic visually than the designing and installing of an oil rig at sea, but what is exciting is the complementary computer simulation program that should be available in September (see "bits" on page 30).

"Computers in Design and Safety" videotapes are on their way to 14 MEP centres throughout the country. Master tapes are also being made available for copying. Packs can be purchased in three formats - VHS £17.25, Betamax £18.40 and U-matic £20.70 - from BP Educational Services, PO Box 5, Wetherby West Yorkshire LS23 7EN. (See "resources" 28 and 29 for more details.)

Merry?

Sound Twins
£5 plus 75p p&p Available from The Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre, 14 Cranford Road, London SW6 4BB.

Sound Twins are a set of card games covering 60 pairs of words that have the same pronunciation but different spelling - homophones. They are intended mainly for spelling but, the author says, can also be used for reading.

The set comes as 20 large cards for the teacher to cut into individual word and matching picture playing cards. The card is fairly flimsy and needs laminating should you wish to keep your set for any length of time. There are brief notes accompanying the cards which describe their possible uses, including instructions for four basic games, eg Happy Families.

Also included in the pack are Clue Sheets containing the words of each set in sentences, for example: "They marry in the church. Make merry at Christmas." (Yes, I didn't think that was a homophone either!) These clue sheets are intended to "aid players in learning which illustration belongs to each spelling". They need them. Leaving aside the very amateurish appearance of the illustrations, it is often extremely difficult to work out what they are supposed to represent. But then again, it probably is very difficult to illustrate "breaks", "heard", "manner", "tale" or "prey" without ambiguity.

As is the case with all resources, someone somewhere will like and use *Sound Twins*. It won't be me.

Wendy Body

Next week

Chilian Ketch on "Africa Africa" - a major publishing at the Common wealth Institute.

RESOURCES/SOFTWARE

bits

ENERGY COMPETITION

"Energy Study UK" is a competition for schools to be launched next month by the British Gas Education Service and the National Extension College. The competition aims to help students increase their understanding of energy use and energy saving. To compete, project teams will be provided with teachers' and students' competition packs, which will include a free copy of the new British Gas Education Service computer program, CEDRIC (Community Energy Display and Retrieval of Information and Calculation). This has been designed to help school teams in collating and comparing data and in assessing energy-saving techniques.

The competition will be open to all 11 to 15-year-olds in secondary schools. Further information from R D Wolfe, Education Liaison Officer, British Gas Corporation, National Westminster House, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V.

LOGO COURSES

The Department of Artificial Intelligence at Edinburgh University will be holding summer schools in LOGO again. The courses are for teachers, advisors and inspectors.

This year there will be two courses: a starter's course and an advanced course for those with a particular interest in using the language in English teaching. "Starting LOGO" takes place on July 23-27 and is repeated on August 6-10 and "LOGO, lists and language" takes place from July 30 to August 3. Enquiries to: K Johnson, LOGO Summer Schools, Department of Artificial Intelligence, Forrest Hill, Edinburgh EH1 2QL. Please send s.a.

PERSONNEL MOVEMENT SYSTEM

BP and MEP gave a preview last week of the computer software that will accompany their "Computers in Design and Safety" pack (see "notes" page 29). "Personnel Movement System" is a simulation program based on the security methods used to check staff moving to and from the Magnus oil rig. It requires two computers to be linked up like onshore and offshore terminals. Children will then check in and out of the rig, call emergency doctors or engineers on the details and check details of next of kin.

Like the personnel, the children will be issued with their own magnetised identity badges which they have to insert into special "badge readers" attached to the computers. At the moment these badge readers look as if they could cost about £25 each, but it is hoped that the price will be reduced by the autumn.

Educational Software from Manchester Educational Micro Software and GSN Educational Software.

This new partnership in software publishing now offers twenty programs for BBC-B, RML 480Z and RML 380Z machines. Among new titles available are:

Headway - A comprehensive career counselling aid
School Text - set up your own Caefax system
Report - a complete administrative package for internal and external reporting

Physics Suite by P. Ford - Interactive science simulations now available in BBC-B versions as well as the highly acclaimed RML versions published in 1983.

For catalogue and further details please write to:

MEMS/GSN
Manchester University Press
Oxford Road
Manchester M13 9PL

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
The Milton Keynes Diploma in
MICROCOMPUTER
APPLICATIONS

10.30 to 3.30 Saturday 2nd June 1984
at the Pavillion, Waterson Tower, Milton Keynes

Teachers of Computer Science and Business Studies are invited to discuss business oriented computer training for schools and colleges. This has particular relevance to TVET. The MK Diploma, the RMA Computer Literacy Course and O levels in Information Technology will be discussed. Selection of hardware and software will also be compared with demonstration. There will be a £1 fee, and a buffet lunch will be provided by MEMS. The conference is sponsored by GSN. To book a place please contact: Peter Lord or Andrew Fluck, Burroughes Ltd, 8 Erics Wood, Stacey Park, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK14 5SE. Tel: 0525 511111.

On the move



How We Used to Live, 1936-1953
Four programs for the BBC Micro B
Price £34.50.

Yorkshire Television / Humberside
Television Authority
Yorkshire Television Enterprises Ltd,
The Television Centre, Leeds LS3 1JS.

Opportunities for schools' humanities teachers to use computers in their class teaching have so far been limited. Many programs have stuck to relatively easy, numerically-based studies, such as changes in population patterns. Yorkshire Television have now produced four programs which avoid mere computation skills. Each program asks children to think about and discuss questions and all set their problems in historical contexts.

How We Used to Live, 1936-1953 has been a straightforward historical reconstruction series examining social history from the perspective of a "typical" family and aiming at the 8-13 age group. The programmes have been low key, introducing contemporary social problems from a child's perspective and presenting aspects of the period visually and verbally.

The computer project, prepared for use with BBC Micros, has been undertaken to "accompany" the series, not be dependent on it. It is a justifiable distinction. The programs could certainly be used with other preparatory material; indeed this separation from the series itself raises the fundamental issue of whether they really can increase historical awareness and understanding or whether their true educational value lies elsewhere.

The generic heading of the four programs is "On the Move", emphasizing that society was experiencing processes of change. The geographical context is an imaginary region near a city - "Stoneport" - containing a small town and a number of different-sized villages. The first program, "Family on the Move", examines housing and family budgets. Children have to select a job, from a range of differing income and status, then choose a house and follow through the implications of their choices.

"Children on the Move" asks pupils to take the role of assisting a billeting officer to choose villages and families for a selection of children coming from the city during the evacuation in 1939. "Housing" looks at how the new estates of the forties were perceived by both the villagers and the developers.

"Goods" contrasts the relative performance of canal, rail and road in the post-war period. The children have to select the most appropriate methods for moving various products over different routes.

Each program demands group work. This is not simply because a limited number can be involved in computer use at any one time, but because the programs are structured to provoke discussion and reference to the sheets provided. Neither the individual pupil nor the class as a whole can effectively consult all the material, but a group of two to five could have photocopies of the five sheets which they would need for consulting house photographs and plans, railway timetables and descriptions of children to be evacuated. They will also need to record some of their decisions on paper, and type their ideas on the computer. Yet each program could be run a number of times using different criteria and producing different results. There is plenty to satisfy all the groups.

Technically the programs are quite good. Colour is used effectively and diagrammatic maps can easily be related to those on the sheets. The screen is rarely filled with too much or too little text. Sound effects are the most inadequate feature, considering the potential of the BBC Micro, but the programs are largely "user friendly" and children should have little difficulty once they (and the teacher) have learnt to note the vital full-stop which sets the tape running. The switching between RETURN and key C to move the program forward is annoying but easy to master. Yet these are really only minor irritations that with one or two runs will disappear.

The teacher's notes are adequate, provided that the television series is used or alternative background reading undertaken. Their most obvious mission is any guide to the length of a typical run in the classroom - few classes are likely to have groups using the micro in under an hour, assuming they have read the sheets beforehand, and many will take much longer.

But the language difficulty and many other problems of the railway timetables alone will seem quite bewildering. However, most top juniors and lower secondary pupils should manage the material without major difficulty, and the potential level of depth in responses should make some, though not all, the programs suitable

for upper secondary use as well.

The programs clearly do little to extend historical knowledge. The weakest is the one dealing with transport and will, unless the children are determined or pushed hard, be unlikely to teach much about the relative merits of canal barges, trains and lorries in the late 1940s. The use of a point system and the lack of any review of the child-input at the end, produces a simple game strategy approach, in which there is as much chance of "success" as there is of careful study of the sheets.

While the program on the family is better and that on housing considerably more interesting, it is "Children on the Move" (designed by P Pollard) that is outstanding in achieving role play and empathy. The children, by being asked to identify with the evacuees, the families receiving them and the billeting officer, are provoked to consider how people relate to each other. By being asked to justify decisions about which families in which village should take a particular child, conscious projection and justification of feelings can actually occur. All the decisions and all the statements put on the screen can be reviewed at the end and the children further questioned on why and how they made particular choices.

It is a pity that the families are only described in detail on the program and not on paper as well, because it is hard to refer to the information again. It is also regrettable that responses have to be limited to eight or 10 words at the most, though it could be argued this helps make thoughts more precise in a sensitive area so difficult to articulate.

But the historical understanding of the children is definitely increased if time is spent on giving a much broader context to evacuation in 1939-40. This will necessitate a significant allocation of time on any history curriculum and it may be thought one aspect of the impact of war would not justify it. If, however, the educational objective is to extend both psychological and social awareness and open up areas of feeling that might otherwise not be discussed, then this will be a very effective means to that end. At last programs are being written which really do show it is what is put into computers which governs what we can get out of them; the machine can become a means of extension to rather than a limitation on our imaginations.

James Bromwich

Worlds apart

Other Worlds

The Inhabitant ISBN 0582 26418 9 (cassette), 0582 26494 4 (disc)
The Explorer ISBN 0582 26227 5 (cassette), 0582 26495 2 (disc)
All versions for BBC B only
Cassettes £5.95, discs £12.95, + VAT.
Longman Resources Unit, 33-35 Tanner Row, York YO1 1LP.

"Children learn best from first-hand experience and looking at a screen is a poor substitute for getting your hands dirty". . . . "Our reality is a consequence of our imaginings, not their being."

These statements from the notes - the second in part of a longer quotation from Frank Smith - sum up the paradoxical nature of *Other Worlds*. On the one hand, there is highly developed, easily-operated software which uses the computer as a teaching machine; on the other, a genuine attempt at flexibility and open-endedness. It is difficult to succeed with both at once.

The central idea of *Other Worlds* is that explorers and inhabitants see the same environment in different ways.

Each program invites pupils to build up a picture of a "world" from one of these viewpoints in response to guidance and questions from the screen. A "Survival Handbook" provides background information and vocabulary, although probably too much for a weak reader. The color pictures are ingeniously edited and the computer, and the disc version allows the outcome to be stored and printed. A sense of humour is included, and there is a booklet in the notes which offers an excellent selection of fiction. As with other programs of this generation, much of the children's work is done away from the machine.

Despite these refinements, however, the programs must stand or fall by their ability to reconcile their own conflicting ideas, and how far they do this is a matter of personal judgement. A teacher who was prepared to do a good deal of preliminary work and to arrange suitable visits could well find them useful. Whether they provide the best potential return for the work involved is another question. Personally, I doubt it.

John Bald

Facts and facts

Manaford Park Margarette Smith
The Tempest Paul Davies
Revision Aids for Secondary Level Learning
For Sinclair Spectrum 48k on cassette.
£10 each including VAT and p and p.

The *Manaford Park* cassette consists of six question-and-answer units (Content - Background Facts - Characterization - Themes - Authorial Voice - Style and Structure); the six units of the *Tempest* tape cover Factual Questions and a unit on each of the five acts. They are intended for A-level use.

At their present state of development microcomputers are far less useful in the English classroom than a decently stocked cupboard of fiction, drama and poetry, or video cassette equipment or even a pile of newspapers and journals. There are, of course, background items of information about the setting of a text like *The Tempest* or *Manaford Park* which can be processed as "facts" for a computer program, and, more dubiously, the details of a text can be reduced to "facts" (rather than facts). These facts and facts can be arranged in more or less interesting ways (though less well respecting teachers who will be willing to divorce them from the experience of the text); but it has to be said that these two cassette programs offer little advance on the "ludo" paradigm of the teaching machine era. Background and textual information has been reduced to the barest yes-no questions on facts and facts, so that the learner's participation is restricted to choosing the "right" answer (which is frequently construed as consensus critical opinion) before moving on, or cancelling a unit in favour of the next unit (which of the same pattern).

As teaching aids, these programs are no more awful than the bookish form OCR revision notes that are not available from most bookshops; but they are inevitable products of bad public sudden-death examination system. But while the booklets are at least convenient to handle, progressive users of the programs should be at that, despite aid and advice from an experienced operator. It took me a good twenty minutes to reach the point when I was actually working on the computer text. With more experience this setting-up time was reduced to five minutes, but even then there is much that can go wrong with the running of cassettes; this involved frustration and wasted time - both of which can be done without at the revision stage. Floppy discs provide better technicality, of course; but to introduce an anti-diluvian teaching apparatus to micro-computer is like employing neolithic man to pilot a space-raft.

Bernard T Harrison



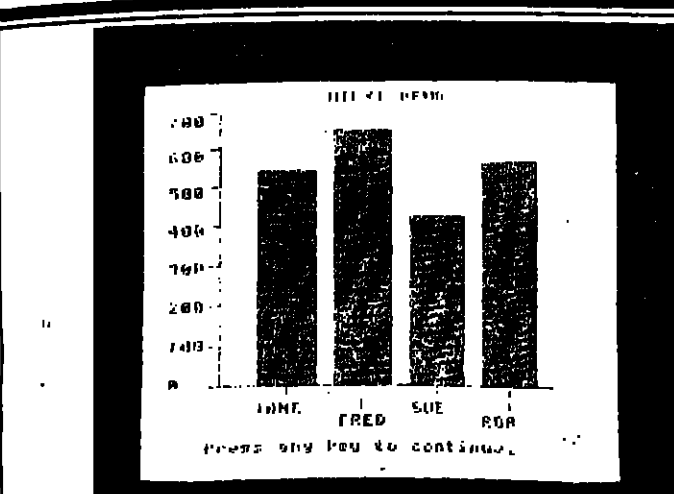
Caliban in Derek Jarman's "The Tempest"

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Firm feature

Jacquetta Megarry reviews two major new items of computer firmware - 'Microtext' above and 'The Graphics ROM' below



The Computer Concepts Graphics ROM

For BBC Micro
Price: £28 plus £1 p&p plus VAT.
Computer Concepts also distribute the ATPL Sideways extension board which costs £38 plus VAT (£34 if ordered with any ROM)

Computer Concepts Ltd, 16 Wayside, Clipperton, Herts WD4 9JJ

John Laski (*The TES* April 2) highlighted the dilemma posed by the BBC's graphics capabilities: marvellous potential hampered by too little RAM left for programs and data if you take advantage of it. Furthermore, BASIC is far from easy for the novice would-be graphics programmer; many teachers have never got past the beginning of the "Introducing Graphics" chapter in the User Guide.

A new piece of firmware from Computer Concepts overcomes both problems at once - and throws in turtle graphics, sprites, and easy animation. Simply called *The Graphics ROM*, it extends the user's control over graphics with brilliant simplicity. At a price of only £28, it represents superb value for money.

The ROM's facilities fall into three main groups: sprites, turtle graphics and general-purpose. Its commands are available as soon as the ROM is fitted, and they can all be incorporated into Basic programs; you just put "TURTLE" or "SPRITE" statement on a line on its own. Although these star commands are passed directly to the machine's operating system, you can use integer variables. This allows easy programming of an ever-changing kaleidoscope display, or an animated sprite of your own design.

Up to 32 sprites of varying sizes can be defined, located anywhere on the screen. A sequence of Sprites can be defined as a "film", for example consisting of separate frames of a man in the act of walking.

Sprites move through other screen objects without destroying them. Sprites and films can be saved on disc or tape and loaded at will. Although the manual advises that a good grasp of the BBC's memory usage (and of Hex notation) is needed to get the best out of the program, it also tells the novice

enough about how much memory to reserve to get started.

The turtle graphics give easy access to one of the most immediately appealing features of LOGO. The first step is to define the turtle's size, shape, colour and trail (using "TURTLE"). The *POS command places the turtle at any position and orientation. Its movements are then controlled using "FORWARD", "BACKWARD", "RIGHT", "LEFT", "PENUP" and "PENDOWN". Like Sprites and Films, Turtle graphics can be used directly in command mode or incorporated into Basic programs.

The general-purpose graphics are in some ways the most innovative. Anything drawn on the screen can be scaled, rotated and even plotted in three dimensions; the whole screen can even be scaled (within limits of 12 by 12 to 31,000). The *PRINT command is perhaps the friendliest and most immediately useful to teachers: it allows you to print attractive messages in multiple sizes, patterns and colours anywhere on the screen. Negative numbers allow you to invert and reflect the lettering. Combined with "ROTATE" and "SCALE", slanted and subtle scale-effects are easy. *PRINT can also be used with variables, though the manual explanation is less than clear.

There are also commands that draw arcs (in lines, dots or triangles), fill any closed shapes with colour and plot complex three-dimensional structures (*ARC, *FILL and *PLOT). The *HELP facility provides an instant aide-memoire for all the ROM commands and their syntax. *GFX is essentially a graphics utility command for more advanced users.

One of the nicest surprises is the eight screen modes left almost to the end of the manual: MODE 8. This is Computer Concepts' own unofficial enhancement to the BBC's complement of eight screen modes: a sixth option which gives 16-colour text and graphics (like the official Mode 2) but uses only 10K of RAM (compared with 20K used in Mode 2). Horizontal resolution is halved: text is displayed as 10 lines of 32 characters; graphics as 80 by 256 pixels. For many educational applications, this is a most acceptable compromise for an extra 10K of user RAM.

Microtext

For the BBC Micro
Version 2.1, disc, price £60 plus VAT
Version 3.3, ROM, £250 plus VAT
From Vector Marketing, Dennington Estate, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 2RL.

Further information from NPL, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0LW.

Microcomputer users seldom realize at the outset that in the long-term they will invest more in software than in hardware. Nor do they generally anticipate the long hours they will have to spend to achieve enough competence in a programming language like BASIC to produce modest amounts of acceptable software. These two icebergs - the size of both obstacles being widely underestimated by surface travellers - have led many enthusiasts' maiden voyages to Titanic disaster; wary observers should reconsider their itinerary.

The commercial launch of the long-awaited *Microtext* authoring system offers a completely new approach to producing software, dependent neither upon do-it-yourself Basic programming nor upon commercial sources. It has considerable attractions for any education authority interested in helping teachers to produce software quickly and to their own requirements. *Microtext* is available now for BBC and IBM microcomputers, and is under development for Apple, IBM PC and all CP/M machines (including RML 380Z). A portable version in Pascal is also being developed for larger machines. This review is based on the BBC implementation, which is available on disc (Version 2.1) and on ROM (Version 3.3).

If you think of machine code and assembly language as forming the base of a pyramid, with programming languages like Basic coming above assembler, then authoring languages form a higher level still. They are faster and easier to write, closer to ordinary English and further from the binary nitty-gritty of the processor. Until recently, they have not been available on small microcomputers like the BBC because of their demand for memory.

In addition, some authoring lan-

guages acquired a bad reputation for imposing a rigid instructional model, and generally their use in Britain has been limited to computer-based training in industry and the services where trainers have fewer reservations about prescriptive models. Although the price of using any authoring language is some loss of flexibility, *Microtext* offers considerable scope for creative educational design. It has been developed over several years at the National Physical Laboratory from impeccable ancestry: Mickie was a pioneering medical interviewing computer from which Edutext, the famous authoring system evolved. Written in Basic, the interpreter was too slow, and its much-refined microcomputer descendant *Microtext* is written in assembly.

The manual is simply presented but clearly-written and contains numerous examples of Basic programs which incorporate some eye-catching displays. It is a tribute to the conciseness of the commands that typing them in is so quick and disproportionately rewarding. Experimenting with editing these demonstration programs is a good short-cut to appreciating the ROM's potential. Cursing them then, for example to display a child's name in rotated, enlarged, patterned and three-dimensional letters - is a powerful way of motivating beginners to learn to program.

The Graphics ROM co-exists peacefully with the other firmware in my Sideways board, including the *Microtext* authoring system. Indeed graphics provide a major enhancement to *Microtext* frames, which can incorporate *Graphics-ROM* commands with a dollars preface, eg *CIRCLE. Occasionally the ROM may interfere with other software (for example arcade games). To avoid complications, the latest version requires the ROM to be enabled using an *FX command. In case this review sounds over-enthusiastic, I should add a word of warning. This ROM only seems cheap. If you use it, you may end up discontented with the rest of your system: overcome with desire to see my effortlessly-created 16-colour display letting, films and patterns, I had to replace the green-screen monitor by a colour monitor.

In addition, you will probably need a ROM extension board (four were reviewed by John Laski). I have been using the ATPL Sideways board which I found easy to fit and has presented no problems so far, except for a mysterious incompatibility with *Edwared* in underscore mode: words are printed correctly but consist of 2's on the screen. The board permits instant switching between *Wordwise*, *Edwared*, the *Graphics ROM*, *Disc Doctor*, *Microtext* and *Beebcal* without having to sacrifice Basic or CP/M (and with plenty of room to spare for ROM and RAM).

The instant power and flexibility of all this accessible firmware represents a major system upgrade in modest cost. Highly recommended.

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Microtext's arrival may prove one of the most significant events for educational computing in 1984

Microtext offers the user four modes: Command, Edit, Test and Run. If you run the demonstration programs supplied on disc, you get a quick overview of the facilities available. Each module consists of Prestel-style text and graphics, but it quickly becomes obvious that the interaction is much more sophisticated than Prestel-style programmed learning. The 13-style plug fault-finding program presents problems of different difficulty levels according to your self-assessed expertise, and accepts open-ended responses which are assessed by searching for key responses like "fuse too low" or "earth wire wrong".

The other three modes are Edit, Test and Command. Edit allows you to rewrite the content and structure of any of these frames, and Test mode gives valuable error-trace facilities. Command mode is used to load and save modules, to step through the frames, and to enter any of the other modes. At all times, what the author sees on the screen is almost exactly what the user will see at run-time: no need for elaborate coding sheets, no unpleasant surprises at the finished effect, and above all, an easy facility for slipping in and out of Edit mode if you don't like what you see.

Above all, *Microtext* will win friends by making it so easy to get started. The printed manual is clearly written and well-indexed; it provides an excellent step-by-step tutorial to help you write your first module. Having named a

frame (*10, for example) you just write out the text to be presented and indicate how you want to treat the different possible answers using arrows followed by frame numbers. A row of dots shows that a frame is complete, and the next frames can deal with each answer in turn. The system automatically stores some variables for you (the current answer, for example) and it is easy to define others (eg a score tally, or a pupil's self-assessment of expertise) and suggest different routes depending on their current values. Concise and helpful summaries of each interaction are stored and can be analysed in a variety of ways.

The diagram shows a complete five-frame *Microtext* module. In Run mode, frame 10 would be presented, followed by frame 20, 30 or 40 (depending on the answer given) and then either frame 50 or frame 10. This illustrates clearly how little typing is needed, but it cannot show how much easier the debugging process is than with a Basic program. The other danger of such a simple example is that it might suggest a prescriptive style of lesson programming, response-matching and routing. In a short review it is impossible to do justice to *Microtext*'s inherent flexibility.

Microtext supports full seven-colour work in Mode 7, and also two-colour display in Modes 6 and 4 (at the price of 7K and 9K extra RAM). The ROM-based Version 3.3 has extra facilities and gives the user another 12K of RAM work-space. It permits Modes 9, 10 and 3 (at a price of 15K or 19K extra RAM). Most gratifyingly, I found that this ROM will coexist with the Computer Concepts' *Graphics ROM* (see below) so that in Modes 0 and 1 you can combine the two (you precede the * by a \$; eg \$*PRINT or \$*CIRCLE). This helps to overcome an otherwise major limitation: the lack of a graphics editor.

In addition to its potential for computer assisted learning, *Microtext* can also be used to set quizzes and administer questionnaires, to run interactive exhibition displays, to create do-it-yourself local viewdata and to provide advice through an expert system. It can also be interfaced to a great variety of external devices: for example, Concept keyboards, Robocom Bitsticks, graphics tablets, light pens, touch screens, handwriting input devices, random-access cassette recorders and videodisc players. Acornsoft are also to license a publishing system which allows *Microtext* material to be published in a secure form which will be self-contained and users will not require *Microtext* in order to use the software. All in all, *Microtext*'s arrival may prove one of the most significant events for educational computing in 1984.



Edwared TELETEXT emulator

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Available ex-stock at £30.00 plus £2.00 p&p and £2.50 VAT (total £34.50). United Kingdom schools pay only £20.00 plus £2.00 p&p and £1.50 VAT (total £23.50). BBC disk only.

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Requires BBC 'B' with OS 1.0 (or later) and any Acorn compatible DFS, 40- and 80-track versions available. 3" version available except DISPLAY software and Edwared datafiles may be used with Ecomat (Level II) only.

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Microelectronics Education Programme.
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MEDIA



Guided tour

Hugh David reviews Channel 4's chronological tour of English verse

Six Centuries of Verse
Channel 4
Wednesdays, 9.00 pm.

They said it couldn't be done. Civilization, America, technology and medicine (all right, even the theatre) were one thing - but poetry! Arnold Bennett wrote a long time ago that the very word "houses terror in the heart of the vast educated majority of the English-speaking race". And that was the educated majority. Conventional wisdom had it that poetry on television would lead to the biggest switch-off of all time.

It still might, but on the evidence of a couple of episodes of *Six Centuries of Verse* I rather doubt it. It is a brave, delightful series which Channel 4 are quite rightly according a peak-time slot instead of burying in the late-evening or daytime wilderness.

Written by Anthony Thwaite (poet, editor of *Encounter*, impeccable credentials), the series is presented by Sir John Gielgud from a variety of plushy locations and features a "repertory" of actors quite probably unrivalled in both celebrity and suitability. Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Cyril Cusack, Anthony Hopkins, Ian Richardson,

Gary Watson, the late Sir Ralph Richardson as well as Sir John himself read (it would be wrong to say "perform") the majority of the poems included.

As the title of the series suggests, these trace the development of poetry written in English from the time of Chaucer to the present. Chaucer (with the opening of *The Canterbury Tales* read in the original Middle English), Shakespeare, Milton and Wordsworth get programmes to themselves, but otherwise the 16-part series (the second half to be transmitted in the autumn) groups poets together under schools and periods.

Of course it does not pretend to be comprehensive, an *Oxford Book of English Verse* of the air; many major figures are represented by a single poem or extract (Byron just scrapes in with a fragment of *Don Juan*). Several second division poets are left out altogether (Southey, Rupert Brooke, William Cowper, even Robert Burns). On the other hand, there are some surprising inclusions. Chidiock Tichborne (c 1558 - 1586) gets in with his only known poem, the lovely meditation "Written the Night Before His Execution".

The moderns, from both Britain and America, are well represented. There are four poems by Emily Dickinson and examples of the work of Whitman, Hardy, Hopkins, Kipling, Yeats, Auden and T.S. Eliot. (At Thames they are already talking about an "astonishing" performance of part of *The Waste Land* in which Ian Richardson and Isla Blair take all the "parts", but we'll have to wait till the autumn for that.) David is right up to date, the series concludes with poems by Dylan Thomas, Robert Lowell, Ted Hughes and Philip Larkin.

The educational potential of the programme is obviously enormous. Video cassettes for use in schools and colleges will be available (details from Alex Dalby, Thames Television International, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9LL) and there is an accompanying book-of-the-series. A handsomely-illustrated cross between anthology and literary history, it also stands on its own as an ideal introduction to English poetry, with a witty, no-nonsense linking text by Anthony Thwaite.

Sure-footed

David Self reviews Central Television's contribution to creative work in English

ETV

Ways with Words
Central Television for ITV
Fortnightly, Fridays 10.09
Repeated Tuesdays 11.08.

Ways with Words is Central Television's contribution to ITV's tier of English programmes. Aimed at eight and nine year-olds, its aim is to encourage viewing children to reflect on their own experiences, to see them as valuable and to try to put them into words.

Thanks to two wise advisers (Hilary Minns and Mike Torbe) and to its producer, Graham Sellers, and to its presenter, John Prowse it has a permanent director and also (apparently) a regular technical crew, it is steadily developing a distinctive house style and gaining a pleasing sure-footedness. It uses documentary, drama and captions to do what only television can do, but also achieves something comparatively rare for television: it stimulates the imagination and provokes a desire to communicate a response. It is that treasure, neglected of late, the successful stimulus for creative English work.

Of particular note is its termly programme "Ways without Words", which might seem heretical to some English teachers, and even more so when they read the teacher's notes: "We feel that there is a place in a school television English series for a programme that does not necessarily have to be followed up. Some teachers may wish... to regard it as an enjoyable shared experience with no follow up." No follow up? You mean, just switch it on and enjoy it? What's its educational value?

In fact, the two programmes already shown have had educational value in plenty and could have been used to initiate much work on non-verbal communication. They have also been

enjoyable, although I did have to reservations about the one transmitted at the end of the autumn term. Resolving a clown-mime, Mick Wall, told us of "One Man and his Rat". Horrible purist that I am, I prefer mime artists not to resort to real props. Nor am I particularly keen on the sort of slapstick that you can see coming several minutes in advance.

Much more successful (and inventive) was the programme shown at the end of this last term. Featuring Lyn Dance, it showed three young people travelling by van to a stately home and indulging in a series of supposedly impromptu improvisations: "dancing cheek to cheek" in a pre-war tea party, becoming pool-side gossies and dancing their way back to "another age". It was beautifully filmed, witty and included the first choreography I have seen for a Post Transist.

If it was a performance simply to be enjoyed it was also much more. Just some years ago many English teachers found music to be a valuable stimulus to the creation of original writing work, so this showed how to do it.

In fact *Ways with Words* has perceived the truth that to gain a response, a programme must not be complete. To be a stimulus, a programme must end on a question mark. For example, another of this term's programmes, "Party Time", was a half-said or half-said was what related both the memory and the imagination and made it so valuable.

Ways with Words new term begins with a programme called "Inside My Head", to be transmitted on May 18. There is another "Ways without Words" on June 22 and 26.

briefings

radio & tv

For schools

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Five programmes, two radiovision, on land conservation and river ecology. For O level and CSE students.

MATHS AT WORK
(Tuesday 9.48, BBC2)
24 case studies of young people applying mathematics in their work. For 14 to 17-year-olds.

SEX EDUCATION
(Tues 10.10, Fri 9.52, BBC2)
An up-date of the "Merry-Go-Round" series for eight to ten-year-olds.

UPDATE USA
(Tuesday 10.35, BBC2)
A series on changes in the geographical balance of five cities. For 13 to 17-year-olds.

HISTORY: NOT SO LONG AGO
(Tuesday 14.00, VHF4)
"Britain since the War" concentrates on the history of the last four decades for 9 to 12-year-olds.

BRITISH SOCIAL HISTORY
(Tuesday 14.15, BBC2)
All new programmes to complete the series. 14 to 16-year-olds look at the impact of four important areas of social change in this century.

MIDDLE ENGLISH
(Wed 9.30, Fri 11.05, VHF4)
"Izzy", a three-part drama about a latchkey child. For 10 to 12-year-olds.

RADIO HISTORY: 16-19
(Wednesday 10.45, VHF4)
Five new programmes designed for use with pupils preparing for A level.

ZIGZAG
(Wednesday 14.40, BBC2)
A project on the Olympics is a major theme for this term. For eight to nine-year-olds.

LA MAREE ET SES SECRETS
(Thursday 9.33, BBC2)
An adventure serial in five parts, entirely in French, to be used at various levels.

COMING OF AGE IN BRITAIN: 1984
(Thursday 10.15, VHF4)
Five portraits of youngsters who will be 18 in 1984. For 15 to 18-year-olds.

LET'S JOIN IN
(Friday 14.05, VHF4)
"Stories from our Street", eight radiovision programmes showing preparations for a multicultural street party. For five to seven-year-olds.

4 Television Programme Recording

Titles Available for Week Commencing Sunday May 6th, 1984.

Sunday May 6
10.30 Anything We Can do: I've got a problem. fee code B
11.00 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
11.30 Whose Town is It Anyway? Sheffield. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

Monday May 7
10.30 Diverse Reports. fee code B
11.00 A Week in Politics. fee code B
11.30 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

Tuesday May 8
10.30 Diverse Reports. fee code B
11.00 A Week in Politics. fee code B
11.30 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

Wednesday May 9
10.30 Diverse Reports. fee code B
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11.30 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

Thursday May 10
10.30 Diverse Reports. fee code B
11.00 A Week in Politics. fee code B
11.30 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

Friday May 11
10.30 Diverse Reports. fee code B
11.00 A Week in Politics. fee code B
11.30 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

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11.30 The World is a Mystery. fee code B
12.00 The Great Wall. fee code B

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NORTHUMBERLAND
CRAMINGTON PARKSIDE
Cramington, NE23 9DN
Teacher of Heavy Craft required from Sept. 1984. Scale 1. State school. Interview. Removals/allowance may be payable. Application forms, returnable 18.5.84, to be sent to Headteacher. (01808) 125122

HEADSHIP

(Re-advertisement)

County Upper School, Bury St Edmunds
Group 11 Ages 13-18

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head of this 13-18 mixed comprehensive school with 940 pupils on roll (135 in sixth form).

The appointment will date from the beginning of the Spring Term 1985.

Previous applicants who wish to have their applications reconsidered must please write to this effect.

Further details and application forms are available from the County Education Officer, Grimwade Street, Ipswich IP4 1LJ. (SAB please) and completed forms should be returned by 18th May 1984.



Leicestershire

SOAR VALLEY COLLEGE,
LEICESTER

Principal—
Group 11

+ £1963 Community Education Allowance

Principal required January for this modern 11-16 comprehensive school and community college. This interesting post calls for imagination, energy and a concern for the educational needs of the individual and the wider community.

Details on request (SAB).

Apply (no forms) with full particulars, curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees to the Director of Education, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester, LE5 8RF by 14th May, 1984.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY: Applications are welcome from suitably qualified and experienced people regardless of race, disability, sex or marital status.

SOUTH EAST HANTS AREA

Waterlooville

OAKLANDS SECONDARY ROMAN CATHOLIC AIDED

(Group 11)

HEADSHIP

The Governors invite applications for the HEADSHIP of the above 11-18 mixed comprehensive school from January, 1985. Further details and application form from the Area Education Officer, 88a, East Street, Havant, PO9 1BT (S.A.E. please).

Closing date for completed applications, which should be returned to the Area Education Officer, Friday, 18th May 1984.

HAMPSHIRE

Mathematics

Scale 1 Posts

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

ST. JOHN'S C.E. MIDDLE SCHOOL
Kidderminster, Worcs.
DY11 6AP

Required from September 1984. A well organized and professional teacher to lead a lively French department. Scale 2. Application forms and further details from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (01562) 123622

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (01562) 123622

MERTON

LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
PRIORY C OF E MIDDLE SCHOOL
Queens Rd, London SW19 8LX

Headteacher Mrs. G.J. Motta

Tel: 01-540 8059

Age Range: 9 - 13 yrs.

No. on roll 428

London Allowance £987

Closing Date 18th May, 1984

Required from September 1984. Full permanent class teacher to teach the development of mathematics and science with the development of mathematics throughout the school. Experience with computing desirable.

Legal expenses and assistance towards removal expenses may be payable in approved cases. Application forms and further particulars of the post are available from the Headteacher, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (0181) 125122

ilea Inner London Education Authority

HEADSHIPS

LADY MARGARET (SG) SCHOOL
PARSON'S GREEN,
LONDON, SW6 4UN
TEL: 01-736 7138

Applications are invited from well qualified and experienced teachers who are also communicant members of the Church of England for the post of head which becomes vacant on the appointment of Mrs. R. A. Cairns to the headship of Burlington Danes School. The appointment will be made either for September 1984 or January 1985.

The school is a Voluntary Aided Church of England foundation of some 400 girls which has helped to develop the provision of inner-city comprehensive education in a small single-sex, Church school. The school is also a member of a successful six-form consortium.

Burnham Group 8 plus Inner London allowance.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors by writing or telephoning to the school. The closing date for applications is Friday, 18 May 1984.

Southwark Diocesan Board of Education

BACON'S CE SCHOOL
DELAFORE ROAD,
BERMONDSEY, SE16

Required in January 1985. Burnham Group 10 plus Inner London allowance. The school is a 6 form entry voluntary aided Church of England, 11-18 mixed comprehensive school, 825 on roll.

The post of headteacher will become vacant on the retirement of the present head. Applications are invited from committed Christians with relevant qualifications and experience.

Further details and forms of application from the Clerk to the Governors, 48 Union Street, London SE1 1TD. Closing date 4 June

ilea IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY: Applications are welcome from suitably qualified and experienced people regardless of race, disability, sex or marital status.

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

FRANKLEY FROGMILL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Wardleham Road, Kidderminster, Worcs.
DY11 6AP

A Class Teacher is required from September 1984 to act as Head of the school. Scale 2 post is available for a suitably experienced applicant.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (01562) 123622

NORTH TYNESIDE

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF NORTH TYNESIDE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
WIDENESS MIDDLE SCHOOL
Widerness, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 6NB

Required from September 1984. A well organized and professional teacher to lead a lively French department. Scale 2. Application forms and further details from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (01562) 123622

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (01562) 123622

Music

Heads of Department

NORTHUMBERLAND

ROTHURBY THOMLINSON'S C SPECIAL AGRICULTURE
Silverton Lane, Rothbury, Northumberland NE29 0LW

Head of Music Scale 1 required from Sept. 1984. State secondary school.

Removals/allowance may be payable.

Application forms, returnable 18.5.84, to be sent to Headteacher. (01810) 125118

HARROW

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
WELDON PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL
Widdowson Road, South Harrow, Middlesex HA2 8LS

Required from September 1984. A well organized and professional teacher to lead a lively French department. Scale 2. Application forms and further details from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (0181) 125122

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (0181) 125122

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NORFOLK

ST. THOMAS MORE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Jeppon, Norwich NR2 3QB

Scale 1 Teacher. Required from September 1984. An enthusiastic and experienced teacher to lead a lively French department. Scale 1. Application forms and further details from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (01603) 123622

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SECONDARY EDUCATION continued

Deputy Headships
Second Masters/
Mistresses

BEXLEY

LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY
ST. MARK'S R.C. SCHOOL
Chislehurst Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 3JH

Required from September 1984. A well qualified and experienced teacher to lead a lively French department. Scale 2. Application forms and further details from the Headmaster, on receipt of a foolscap S.A.E. (0181) 125122

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BEXLEY

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KNOWSLEY
HIGHERSIDE
 COMPREHENSIVE
 Number Lane, Whiston,
 Merseyside L35
 2XG
 Boys and Girls - 11 -
 16 years
 required for September
 SCALE 1 Teacher of
 Commerce/Economics, pri-
 marily for boys and high
 ACADEMIC GROUPS. Oppor-
 tunity to develop subjects
 in the school. Appli-
 cations should indicate other
 interests.
 For application form and
 further details send a.s.e.
 to the school or to the
 school, to whom

•

[illegible]

Publication Terms

from and returnable to
the U.S.A. or to the
applicant's nearest
relative in the County
of Wick for their employees to
be employed by the
Union. (00784) 131822

REY
CATION
WARD OF EFFINGHAM
COL
or Road, Effingham
is mixed company. For
BUSINESS STUDIES
September 1
to include shorthand,
typewriting, office
commerce. Post arises
to expansion of Sixth Rec-
currence. Appointment
initially be for one year
teachings of a second
best required. For details
Bookham 53694.

WEDGES C OF W.R.C.
is mixed company. For
NOR, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802

de of Negro

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
THE ELLOWES HALL SCHOOL
 Stickler Lane, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Mids.
 (12 - 18 co-ed, comp. Group 11)
 Required September
 31. The School has a fully equipped Computer

without

SEX
HINSDFORD SCHOOL
Cranston; Chalmers
all 509)
C Cranford 265511
TES and COMPUTER
COURSE Scale 3
In September an
advisory council, Mathemat-
ics to teach to A level and
responsibility for all
teaching and committee skilful
throughout the curricu-
lar (years 1 - 6) and be a
member of the curriculum
working party on 'Tech-

Closing date

CAMPSHIRE
E JOHN HANSON SCHOOL
 Ave Close Andover SP10
 C. 16 Mikes Comprehensive
 Squired September 1984
 of Department - Scale 4
 Formation Technology to
 Education Computer Assisted
 Learning and Business Com-
 Further details and form of
 Application from the Head
 Master Applications should
 be made as soon as possible
 (00947) 156018

HILLINGDON
LONDON BOROUGH OF
HILLINGDON
TOWNHALL SCHOOL
Wise Lane, Hillingdon,
Bucks. UB7 7EU
(number on roll 741, 68 in
Sixth Form)

This is a 5 form entry mixed school with modern buildings on an 80 acre site, situated on the Middlesex/Buckinghamshire border with easy access to London via the M4.

Required for September 1984, Head of Computer Education (Scale 3/4) to be responsible for the development of Computer Education across the curriculum. The scale available will depend on the experience of the successful candidate. The school has a successful record in the use of computers in the curriculum, with RME, Science and Mathematics. Courses are currently offered at CSE.

The successful applicant will be expected to work with the staff in developing the curriculum, and to be responsible for the school's computer equipment.

Apply by letter in the first instance, giving names and addresses of three referees, and a telephone number at which you can be contacted.

Outer London Allowance payable. (00564) 130118

KENT
COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
SENACRE HIGH SCHOOL
Senacre Road, Maidstone
Kent ME16 6JH
(Roll 880 mixed)

Required September 1984 an enthusiastic, experienced Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Department (00565) 130118

LONDON
ST. RICHARD OF
BAYLYN
Royal College Street, NW1
London WC1A 9LW
Comprehensive, Group 10
Mr. John Mortley, B.Sc.,
A.D.

A well qualified and experienced teacher for the Head of Computer Education (Scale 3) for September 1984. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the school's computer education, and will also be responsible for the school's micro-computer network.

Applicants may obtain application forms from the school, or from the Education Department, and should submit them with a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Department (00565) 130118

NORTH YORKSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
EASTATE GRAMMAR HIGH SCHOOL
Airedale Road, Harrogate
North Yorkshire HG1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Department (00565) 130118

NOTTINGHAM
COUNTY COUNCIL
NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL
Nottingham, Notts
Head of Computer Education (Scale 3) for September 1984. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the school's computer education, and will also be responsible for the school's micro-computer network.

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RICHMOND UPON THAMES
LONDON BOROUGH OF
RICHMOND UPON THAMES
Park Avenue, Richmond
Middlesex TW9 1LW
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

SHARNBOROUGH
COUNTY COUNCIL
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

HEAD OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Scale 3/4
plus 4/5 Outer London Allowance p.a.

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Information Technology (Scale 3/4). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Information Technology throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Department (00565) 130118

SHARNBOROUGH
COUNTY COUNCIL
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

SURREY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL
Collingwood Road, Epsom
Surrey KT8 5JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

EAST SUSSEX
BEKILL COLLEGE
Turkley Road, Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex TN39 5HF
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

HARROW
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE
166 Underhill Road, Harrow
Middlesex HA1 1UH
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Department (00565) 130118

RICHMOND UPON THAMES
LONDON BOROUGH OF
RICHMOND UPON THAMES
Park Avenue, Richmond
Middlesex TW9 1LW
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

CHRIST'S SCHOOL
Queen's Road, Richmond
Surrey TW9 1LW
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

A six form entry voluntary aided school for Anglicans and Roman Catholics. The school has a micro-computer network, and is seeking a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

SURREY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL
Collingwood Road, Epsom
Surrey KT8 5JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

Scale 1 Posts

ENFIELD
LONDON BOROUGH OF
ENFIELD
Enfield Road, Enfield
London EN1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

NOTTINGHAM
COUNTY COUNCIL
NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL
Nottingham, Notts
Head of Computer Education (Scale 3) for September 1984. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the school's computer education, and will also be responsible for the school's micro-computer network.

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SHARNBOROUGH
COUNTY COUNCIL
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

BERKSHIRE
TURNPIKE SCHOOL
Turnpike Road, Maidenhead
Berkshire SL6 5JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

LANCASHIRE
KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL
Lancaster, Lancashire
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

NORTH YORKSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

STOCKPORT
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
STOCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL
Stockport Road, Stockport
Cheshire SK1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

SURREY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL
Collingwood Road, Epsom
Surrey KT8 5JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

WALTHAM FOREST
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
WALTHAM FOREST HIGH SCHOOL
Waltham Forest, London
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

WEST SUSSEX
HARVEY SCHOOL
Harvey Road, Brighton
West Sussex BN1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

Scale 1 Posts

ENFIELD
LONDON BOROUGH OF
ENFIELD
Enfield Road, Enfield
London EN1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

NOTTINGHAM
COUNTY COUNCIL
NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL
Nottingham, Notts
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SHARNBOROUGH
COUNTY COUNCIL
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

DUDLEY
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
THE ELLOWES HALL
Dudley Road, Lower Gornal, Dudley
West Midlands DY1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

HARINGEY
Progress with Humanity
ST. THOMAS MORE R.C. SCHOOL
Haringey, London
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

NORTH YORKSHIRE
TADCASTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Tadcaster, North Yorkshire
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

OLDHAM
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
ST. ANSELME'S R.C. SCHOOL
Oldham, Lancashire
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

SURREY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
COLLINGWOOD SCHOOL
Collingwood Road, Epsom
Surrey KT8 5JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed Comp. NOR. 82)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

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WALTHAM FOREST
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
WALTHAM FOREST HIGH SCHOOL
Waltham Forest, London
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

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Scale 1 Posts

ENFIELD
LONDON BOROUGH OF
ENFIELD
Enfield Road, Enfield
London EN1 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

NOTTINGHAM
COUNTY COUNCIL
NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL
Nottingham, Notts
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SHARNBOROUGH
COUNTY COUNCIL
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Unless otherwise stated the following posts are required for September 1984. Application forms and further details are available from the Head of the School on receipt of S.A.E., closing date: 16th May, 1984.

PRIMARY: DEPUTY HEADSHIP GROUP 3
NAVENEY CE (CONTROLLED) SCHOOL, NOR 82
Deputy Head required with interest in teaching environmental studies and ability to teach boys' games. Further particulars and forms from the Acting Divisional Education Officer, P.O. Box 2, Council Offices, Eastgate, St. Albans, Herts. AL1 1JH.

SCALE 2 POST. GROUP 3
STANHOPE COUNTY INFANTS SCHOOL, Bowl Alley Lane, Hemcastle, Lincs. LN5 5ED. NOR 120
Solidly qualified and experienced Assistant Teacher required to take special responsibility for a 25 place nursery unit attached to the school.

JUNIOR: SCALE 2 POST
BRANTON COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL, Station Road, Branton, Lincoln LN1 1LH. NOR 189
MATHS - Experienced teacher for a class of first year juniors. Scale 2 post available for the co-ordination of Maths throughout the School. An interest in 'games' an advantage.

SCALE 1 POST
NETLEHAM CE (W) JUNIOR SCHOOL, Mill Hill, Nettleham, Lincoln LN2 2PE. NOR 189
Assistant Teacher required for a class of Middle Juniors. Must be a practising communicant member of the Church of England and able to make a major contribution in Science, C.D.T. and Music.

SECONDARY: SCALE 4 POST
THE NORTH KESTIVEN SCHOOL, Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN9 8AG. NOR 180
ENGLISH - Head of Department required to lead team of 8 Specialist Teachers.

SECONDARY: SCALE 3 POSTS
NORTH KESTIVEN SCHOOL, Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN9 8AG. NOR 180 (11-18 mixed)
HOME ECONOMICS - Head of Department required. Fabric and Dress, and Food and Nutrition are taught up to 'A' Level and there are CSE courses in Homecraft and Child Development.

ENGLISH - A well qualified and experienced teacher as Head of this Department. Closing date: 16th May, 1984.
WELTON WILLIAM FARR CE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL, Welton, Lincoln LN3 3JH. NOR 170
LANGUAGES - Graduate required as Head of this Department. Applicants should be able to offer French and German. Closing date: 17th May, 1984.

MATHS & SCIENCE - Teacher required as Assistant Head of these Departments. The timetable would be approximately 1/2 Maths and 1/2 Science.
YARBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, Riseholme Road, Lincoln LN1 3SP. NOR 1000
MUSIC - Satisfactorily qualified and experienced Teacher as Head of this Department.

SECONDARY: SCALE 1 POSTS
QUEEN ELIZABETH'S HIGH SCHOOL, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 2ST. NOR 800
ENGLISH - Teacher required throughout this 11-18 mixed Grammar School. An interest in drama/poetry an advantage.

ECONOMICS AND/OR BUSINESS STUDIES - Graduate required to teach to 'O' and 'A' Level. Applicants should state other subjects they are able to offer.
BRANTON SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Station Road, Branton, Lincoln LN4 1JH. NOR 1800
Temporary Assistant Teacher required to teach pupils with Special Educational Needs for one year in the unit attached to the school.

MATHS - Graduate to teach this subject throughout the school, including Pure and Applied Maths to 'A' Level.
LAFORD SCHOOL, Fox Road, Billingham, Lincoln. NOR 408
Required for academic year 1984/5 only, teacher to provide special and remedial education, possibility of some teaching in the main stream of the school and applicants should state curricular strengths. This appointment is temporary owing to member of staff being granted sabbatical.

BOYS' PE & GAMES - Teacher required. Successful candidate expected to teach other subjects and applicants should state their curricular strengths.
AVELAND SCHOOL, Blithedale Road, Billingham, Lincoln. NOR 380
ENGLISH - Teacher required, with opportunity to teach CSE/O Level group. Candidates should have an interest in remedial teaching.

SCIENCE - Teacher required with an interest in Physics and Computers, to join a lively and successful department shortly moving to a new science complex within the school.
DEEPING COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL, Park Road, Deeping St. James, Peterborough. NOR 1040
PHYSICAL SCIENCES - Teacher required with Combined Science in year 1 and 2.

CRAFT, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Teacher required.
MORRIS DYKES HIGH SCHOOL, Morley Dyke Road, Louth, Lincs. LN11 6JH. NOR 600 GROUP 10
RE & ENGLISH - Teacher required. Free board and lodging in return for residential duties may be available. Apply by letter to the Head with C.V. and names and addresses of 2 referees as soon as possible.
CORDEAUX HIGH SCHOOL, High Holme Road, Louth, Lincs. LN11 0JH. Group 10. NOR 724

SCIENCE - Teacher required. Scale 2 in Physics offered; otherwise Scale 1.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - Teacher required. Possibility of board and lodging in exchange for duties in school boarding house.
SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL, Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN9 8PW. NOR 700
PHYSICS - Teacher required. Opportunity for a suitable candidate to teach at appropriate level. Ability to teach some Chemistry an advantage.

FRENCH - Teacher required for one year to teach French to fifth form level.
CRAFT, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Teacher required, capable of teaching some aspects of C.D.T. to fifth form level and flexible enough to teach other subjects in the Junior forms.

DOVER
SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

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SHARNBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL
Sharncliffe Road, Sharncliffe
Leeds LS1 3JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

SECONDARY C.D.T.
continued
HERTFORDSHIRE
HILL JAMES ALTHAM SCHOOL
Hill James Lane, South Oxhey, Watlington, Herts. SG12 8JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

Apply by letter to the Head Teacher, who will forward details, and a curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Education Committee (00565) 130118

AVON COUNTY
CIPPING SODBURY SCHOOL
Sodbury Road, Cipping Sodbury
Bristol BS11 1JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

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AVON COUNTY
HENBURY SCHOOL
Henbury Road, Henbury
Bristol BS11 1JH
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BRENT
LONDON BOROUGH OF
BRENT MANOR HIGH SCHOOL
Carlton Avenue, Brentford
Middlesex TW8 8JH
(Roll 1,100 mixed)

Required for September 1984, a well qualified and experienced teacher to become Head of Computer Education (Scale 3). The position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to develop Computer Education throughout the school.

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BRENT
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EXTRA

ENGLISH

Beyond the call of competence

Teachers should be prepared to justify the values and attitudes which their lessons embody and encourage. By Graham Nutbrown

Schools and individual departments are increasingly concerned with how they are viewed by the general public, especially parents. Whether we like it or not, much now can depend on a school's image. Schools, departments and individual teachers are being urged to be more open and more accountable, to be more willing to show and to justify what they are doing.

Subjects areas also have an image in the public mind. Some subjects are viewed favourably, some with suspicion, some with contempt. Sociology and Political Studies, on the whole, get a bad press. They were not part of the curriculum when parents were at school and their aims and methods are not widely understood. But it is not just the newer subjects which suffer from widespread misunderstanding. English is often viewed with suspicion because it does not appear to be doing the same sort of thing as it did when parents were at school. Parents impart preconceptions about subjects to pupils and this can lead to anxiety in pupils that what they are doing is irrelevant.

This is a point made by David Jackson in the Summer 1983 issue of *English in Education*. His article, "Is this proper English we're doing, Sir?" argues that English teachers must make more effort to explain to pupils, parents and employers that the subject is not simply about "a set of functional skills that you can master by docilely fitting in to given routines stage managed by the teacher." Language skills are more varied and more complex than is generally realised and in any case, Jackson says, the real basic skills in English are more to do with how children see themselves, how they perceive their own meanings, how they achieve independence and critical consciousness, than with mere mechanical skills.

The problem, however, is that whereas we might persuade the general public that innovative ways of developing language competence are acceptable, we cannot fully justify what we are doing, our priorities, without referring to more contentious overall aims and values. It would be wrong to exclude these from the debate.

If we are to attempt to increase understanding of the subject we must not fail to come to terms with the crucial question of what we are attempting to do beyond developing language competence.

There are two questions, to do with values, which we must face. The first is: Why do we want children to be competent language users? Jackson refers to concepts such as identity, independence, critical consciousness. These, and other concepts, are likely to feature in an answer to this first question.

The second is separate but related.

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What values and attitudes do we hope to encourage pupils to hold? This perhaps is a more contentious question, but it cannot be ignored. Nothing we do in class is totally neutral. Values and attitudes are embodied in all our practices. Teachers are on display, their conduct is viewed, they select some topics and not others, they present materials which have meanings. Choices are made for reasons. Some people might resent the fact that teachers affect pupils' values and attitudes, but that will not stop it being the case. Teachers, however, should be prepared to justify the values and attitudes which their lessons embody and encourage. And we should be able to point out that one important reason for developing language skills is to give pupils the means to reject, or to accept for themselves, the specific values we encourage.

Some people appear to suspect that

English teachers are political radicals interested in indoctrinating pupils. They get this impression, perhaps, not only from the occasional shock-horror newspaper article, but also from the reading, writing and discussion topics given to pupils. They suspect the teacher's aims and motives. We must be prepared to explain them. It is obviously not true that English teachers are all politically radical. (Few are, in my experience.) It is not even true that teachers who are most innovative or progressive in teaching styles are more politically radical than others. English teachers do not share special political and moral values, social attitudes. Few of us, I think, would approve of direct partisan indoctrination; we are more likely to approve of giving all sides of any issue a fair hearing. But we should not, we cannot, exclude our own views totally from lessons. What we must do, indi-

vidually, is to make ourselves aware of, and responsible for, the values which our lessons embody, and be prepared to justify their presence, just as we should be prepared to justify teaching techniques and materials.

The two questions (why do we want children to be competent language users? and what values do we hope to encourage them to hold?) are related because the values we refer to in answering them are likely to occupy the same ground, to rest on the same fundamental principles. It could be that at this level of generality most of us, both teachers and parents, would be in agreement.

It is difficult to characterize fundamental principles without sounding vague; but we should try. There is, surely, widespread adherence (however passive it may be) to the principle that every person should be allowed (which includes helped and taught) to achieve his or her full human potential. We all want that, at least for our own children. We deplore anything which unnecessarily represses that potential. Of course this is a vast and vague principle, so catch-all that it can become vacuous, but maybe it is not hopelessly vague. It is a starting point, a foundation.

So one way of characterizing the values which lie behind the goal of making children competent language users is to say that we are fundamentally against the repression of the potential of each child, against the repression of identity, of individuality and independence of thought and expression, of satisfaction. Since these are qualities which are largely achieved through language, (failure to develop language competence, as best we can, is a form of repression).

It is a principle which unites language and literature approaches. If it is just a version of the view that English is good for you, it is at least not quite as hollow as the view that literature, or English generally, makes us more "civilized" or, in a narrow sense, more moral.

It also gives conceptual unity to our various roles within the school as a whole. We must consider, and value, all the school does to help each child achieve his or her full human potential, and equally we must consider, and deplore, all that is repressive in the institutions of school life, in the behaviour of one child to another, and in our own conduct.

A parent and myself might agree about fundamental principles but still disagree about means and definitions, but if we agree even approximately about ends, that is something. At least we will not have been persuading ourselves that English is wholly concerned with language skills, basic or otherwise.

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Taking passages from *Romeo and Juliet*, James Sale outlines how he uses rhetoric to teach English literature. See "Reasons for rhetoric" page 52.

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Set books and set habits

Colin Butler looks at A level English

One of the most interesting things about E.M. Forster, indisputably one of the finest English novelists of this century, is that he ceased writing novels altogether. In his biography of Forster, P.N. Furbank suggests three possible reasons for this: that Forster was fundamentally afraid of success; that as a practising homosexual he found it increasingly irksome to express himself via the doings of heterosexuals; and that changing times were posing problems that Forster had no normal answer to. While all three carry conviction, the last seems to me the most important, not least since it is worth remembering that Forster himself was not entirely dismayed by the turn his career was to take - from novelist to, by and large, essayist.

"Temperamentally," Forster was to broadcast in 1946 (*vide "The Challenge of Our Time"* in *Two Cheers for Democracy*), "I am an individualist... and my books emphasise the importance of personal relationships and the private life... What can a man with such equipment... say about the Challenge of Our Time (sic)?" The immediate problem, as the broadcast goes on to make clear, is the need to reconcile individual values with thinking in collective terms, a feat which Forster himself felt was beyond him. This being so, his essays, each valid in its own circumscribed way but never intended to be a cumulative part of an exhaustive statement on man and his world, must have seemed a much better means of proceeding than the novel, with its inveterate individualism and its traditional assumptions of comprehensiveness.

The issues that Forster raises by his characteristically honest preoccupation with "egoism" transcend his own situation, being as they are central to artistic and critical practice alike. And if I have, in the back of my mind, the section of the London Board A level English syllabus entitled "The Individual and His Times" - a section due, in any case, to be replaced in 1986 - it is only because by its implications it brings home the daunting obligations that fall to the teacher as he or she attempts to introduce the young not to the study of books (the expository fallacy), but to the decidedly more problematical enterprise of the study of literature.

By which of several competing and by no means mutually exclusive sets of criteria we establish functional definitions of "the individual" or of "his (???) times" is a question which, of course, arises immediately. But the more insidious difficulty inheres in the form of the examination syllabus itself, namely,

ly, that lists of purportedly representative texts like *Howards End* or *The Waste Land* or 1984 or *The Spire* beguile the reader into believing that he has more equipment (to insist on Forster's word) than he really has. And that is not only because such syllabuses seem self-evidently appropriate in the light of that reader's own education at school, and in a college or university literature department, but also because such books, in a way hallowed by the culture of which they are a formative constituent, insinuate a manner of understanding by the very means whereby they stake out their areas of enquiry: by their form, their subject matter, their processes of selection and so forth. Provided the teacher confines himself to expounding content in more accessible terms, supplemented, for example, by enough theological and biographical "background" to provide an intelligible context for Eliot's poetry, by enough social history for *Howards End* or whatever, he can be confident of remaining safely within the expectations of his syllabus.

There is, however, a real danger that such an approach fails to draw an adequate distinction between "knowing" and "knowing about". To recapitulate Forster's liberalist perplexities or Eliot's redemptionism in simpler form is one thing, and many an academic has made a fine living out of precisely such activities (Wordsworth's view of nature, Dickens' social attitudes, Milton's theology, and so forth); but to be sufficiently equipped to think in, let us say, historical or theological terms, and to incorporate the contributions of major authors, to the extent that they are valid, in such thinking is another thing altogether. As Forster perceived in his own particular case, there is in the practice, if not the potential, of literary production a point where hard questions of competence need to be raised. And there is no guarantee that they will be resolved by conferring automatic primacy on literature itself, however much that process may be institutionalised by examination syllabuses, university departments and their direct reflection, school departments.

If it is accepted that literature is part, but only part, of the acquisition of wisdom, then the insufficiency of a clutch of literary texts in *vacuo* becomes readily apparent. For each text, by the issues that it raises, will necessarily push, towards disciplines of thought that extend beyond it.

This in turn raises the question of English as a single-subject discipline.

If literature, unlike Baron Munchausen, is incapable of sustaining itself by its own pigtail, then it follows that other modes of thought should also be involved - not, as tends to be the case, either on an ancillary basis or adventitiously, depending on whatever a candidate's subject combinations happen to be, but intrinsically and *a priori*. Some such recognition of this seems to be in the wind with the recent access of interest in A level philosophy; but I should have thought that a more promising possibility would be Mode Three syllabuses constructed in genuinely inter-disciplinary fashion in order to explore a limited number of clearly defined concepts. These could be validated, each on its own merits, by the examinations boards they were proposed to, and be understood to count as the equivalent of more than one separate A level.



EM Forster: temperamentally an individualist. Portrait study by Jane Bawn

What I am sure of is that, far from discounting literary studies (Forster may have stopped writing novels but he knew the merits of those he had already published), such a procedure would encourage their development in a way that is more commensurate with their complexities than is currently the case; and that the Palace of Art would thereby be less likely to become like more than a Hall of Mirrors.

Colin Butler is Head of English, Borden Grammar School, Sittingbourne, Kent.

Sensitive to the subject

Cockcroft on English at 16-plus
by Bill Deller

Since the setting up of the Secondary Examinations Council, Sir Wilfred Cockcroft, its Chairman, has achieved at least two crucial aims:

● He has established without equivocation the SEC's independence from the Secretary of State for Education. (In a letter to Sir Keith last December, Sir Wilfred outlined "issues beyond those you have raised", among which were the SEC's concern that in general the 16-plus proposals "should not have the effect of dividing the school population in any undesirable way", that "the great majority" of children "should be allowed access to at least some syllabuses in some subjects" and that "insufficient resources could jeopardize the successful implementation of the changes we think desirable". Not bad for starters!)

● The second vital point is that the SEC has thrown its weight behind the idea of a unified 16-plus examination system - "it is educationally feasible and desirable to implement a single system of examining". So much is well known and it would be an aberrant decision indeed if Sir Keith were to back away from this inevitable and sensible reform advocated so authoritatively by a body he himself set up to advise him on the matter.

Perhaps not so well known is the detailed consideration the SEC has given to the various subject areas. In English, at least some significant points have already emerged. In the first place, Sir Wilfred shows considerable sensitivity to the problems posed by assessment in the subject. He mentions English several times as an example of the difficulties likely to be encountered and suggests that examinations in this subject will be "much less uniform" (than maths) and that the skills and knowledge to be tested will "depend much more upon the professional judgment of the examiner". He talks elsewhere of "the increased role of school-based assessment" and of "placing greater reliance upon the classroom teacher". He goes out of his way to "welcome the call for an increased role for coursework" and does not duck the practical consequences of extending this pattern of assessment: "supply staff will be required to provide cover for colleagues absent on training, standardization or moderation exercises".

The SEC agrees with Sir Keith on the separation of English and English Literature, so it seems likely that those who see English as a unified subject have lost this particular battle. Nevertheless, both also agree that it will not be possible to study English without reading a wide range of literature. As far as English as a subject is concerned, Sir Wilfred quickly disposes of Sir

Keith's "doubts" about oral assessment, saying, "It is essential to stress the important role of spoken language in schools and we believe that the time is right to encourage the Examinations Boards to develop forms of oral assessment which pay heed to the wide range of oral skills that school pupils need to possess." Coursework too not only receives firm support but, only to be placed on it - at least 20 per cent of the marks available. A figure is also placed on the use of multiple-choice tests, this time not more than 20 per cent of the total mark and the method "not to be used as the sole test of reading and/or comprehension". With a suggested 50 per cent for continuous writing, the overall framework of assessment now begins to emerge quite clearly. On the tricky point of differentiated versus common papers, though, the SEC is quite rightly more cautious. Sir Wilfred thinks that a common paper for continuous writing would present few difficulties, but it is "much harder, though not impossible" to set common questions on reading. For the moment, he seems to be leaving it to the exam boards to come up with workable solutions.

As far as English literature goes, coursework is again approved (a minimum allocation of 20 per cent) as is the requirement to read beyond individual set texts (minimum 25 per cent). Also, timed written papers should figure in all schemes of assessment, but says Sir Wilfred interestingly, not "necessarily at the final point of the course followed. There is virtue in allowing flexibility for some schemes of assessment in which examinations occur at an earlier stage."

Lastly, following his own advice about leaving some matters to independent experts in the field, he makes no judgment on the exact role of differentiated papers in literature but suggests, "Examining Groups should be left free to develop schemes of assessment in which it is clear that the candidates are being asked to show what they can do."

On that happy, if indefinite note it is best to leave it for the time being. The Secondary Examinations Council has made a good start. Already it has placed its growing influence behind a pattern of assessment in English which reflects many of the advances made in recent years. Teachers' fears about the possible loss of oral and coursework elements in English examining have not materialised. Attention will now move to all important matters of content and detail. After Sir Keith has made up his mind, that is.

Bill Deller is English adviser for Waltham Forest.

Welcome but often absurd

The English Novel. By Ford Madox Ford.
Corgi Press £3.95.
85635 4803

This pretty reprint of Ford Madox Ford's book is, of course welcome, though I must say that for a book which has received much favourable comment it seems surprisingly vulnerable. It is a loose, over-assertive farrago from the age of Edwardian "Bookmen". In other words, it is bitty, cobbled, self-indulgent, dated and often critically ingenious. Its judgments are often absurd, its comparisons often odious. Developted by the nineteenth century emphasis on originality, Ford is led to discuss many books which are neither English nor novels.

Ray critics can have addressed themselves to the subject, in the English novel with so little professed affection

or esteem. The main complaint of the book is directed at an alleged "Anglo-Saxon" idiosyncrasy and immaturity which his own manual might be held to exemplify in full measure. His central thesis is that, "from the death of Swift to the publication of *The Way of All Flesh* there is very little to be found in the English novel that is not slightly unworthy of the attention of a grown-up man" say of a grown-up Frenchman.

He is on the side of Richardson against Fielding, and he dislikes the moralism of Dickens, though he seems to judge him by his callowest works. His profoundest affections go forth to Flaubert and Stendhal, Conrad and Henry James. But for all its faults the book remains surprisingly easy reading - not a characteristic of much recent criticism, and not, I think, of the critical writing of the past.

Edward Neill

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Meeting the author

"Will you put me in one of your books? Oh go on, please do!"

That's not the sort of request that most authors receive, I imagine, but it's one that crops up with remarkable regularity during the 50 or so visits I make annually to schools and public libraries to talk to children about books and creative writing. In any case, it's a request I can't refuse. One of those youngsters who met me at an author before they are fascinated by almost every plane of the business of writing fiction for a living (which is not to say that they wouldn't be equally entranced by an encounter with, say, an insurance assessor or a submarine).

The desire to be included in the cast list of a future book usually arises after someone has asked whether I use "real people" in my stories. The answer, of course, is that like most novelists, I base some characters on aspects of people I've met (a particular case of humour, an intriguing brightness) and then invent the remainder of the personalities. So, on that basis, anyone at all is a candidate for characterization and volunteers are not slow to come forward with offers to reveal irretrievable facets of their secret lives. Moreover, they won't mind at all if you use their real names.

Choosing appropriate names for people is one of those children who really

(in the majority of cases, the children talk to me as aged between eight and thirteen). Often it seems to amaze them that writers frequently turn to a telephone directory to link a favoured first name with a surname. I carry a notebook everywhere for jotting down names from such public offerings as shop windows, memorials and gravestones and I recommend that prospective young storytellers do the same. As one of the entertaining interludes in these mainly questions-and-answers sessions we have a competition to see who can devise the most apposite names for specified characters, i.e. a space capsule commander, a traffic warden, an opening batsman or a lady spy. To decide, who's come up with the best choice everyone present votes on the matter.

Similarly, after listening to a very brief account of how I construct one of my novels, children usually enjoy building a story of their own - orally. We start with my imagined incident anyone cares to suggest. (Last dog wandering into classroom, injured girl found in empty house, strange light in sky); and then, taking it in turns, we get a good story going at a rare pace. Inevitably, some contributions are patently absurd - but usually it's the other children who point that out, not

admit that their major problem in writing is how to keep a story alive after the first few incidents and attempts at character-building. I encourage them to try to think in advance of the ending of the entire story, which is a difficult concept for those accustomed to taking only one step at a time through life. But that approach can be a breakthrough writing technique and some are able to grasp it.

These visits are arranged either through direct invitations from schools and children's librarians or by regional Arts Associations. For me, they're never less than enjoyable. On many occasions, the outcome for the children is an increased interest in writing their own stories, many of which are sent to me in the course of the following months either by the authors themselves or their teachers. Some times, too, stories are collected together within a school and published in a paperback format. What these writings demonstrate above all is that the next generation shouldn't be short of eager and accomplished, storytellers.

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EXTRA

Focus upon the forms and functions

English language studies – a new A level syllabus outlined by Dennis Freeborn

Eighteen months ago (TES, November 26, 1982) I described the new Varieties of English paper in the University of London GCE Board's Advanced level GCE English syllabus – an alternative to the Comprehension and Appreciation paper – which was first taken in June 1981 in a pilot scheme and is available to all centres from the June 1984 examination. Its success has led to the preparation of a syllabus for a completely new A level subject called English Language Studies.

It is proposed that English Literature and English Language Studies should be separate subjects, to be taken either singly or in combination in the University of London, GCE A level examination. A mixed syllabus is proposed as an alternative single subject, to be called English, consisting of the Varieties of English paper and two of the English Literature papers.

One of the problems facing the subject working party of the University of London GCE Board's Subject Advisory Panel in English, which initially prepared the new syllabus, was to define limits. In departing from the identification of "English" at this level with the study and critical appreciation of literature, should all those activities be included which are variously within the concept of English as a taught subject? The proposals are for the principal aim of the syllabus to be "the empirical investigation and description of English in use, both written and spoken".

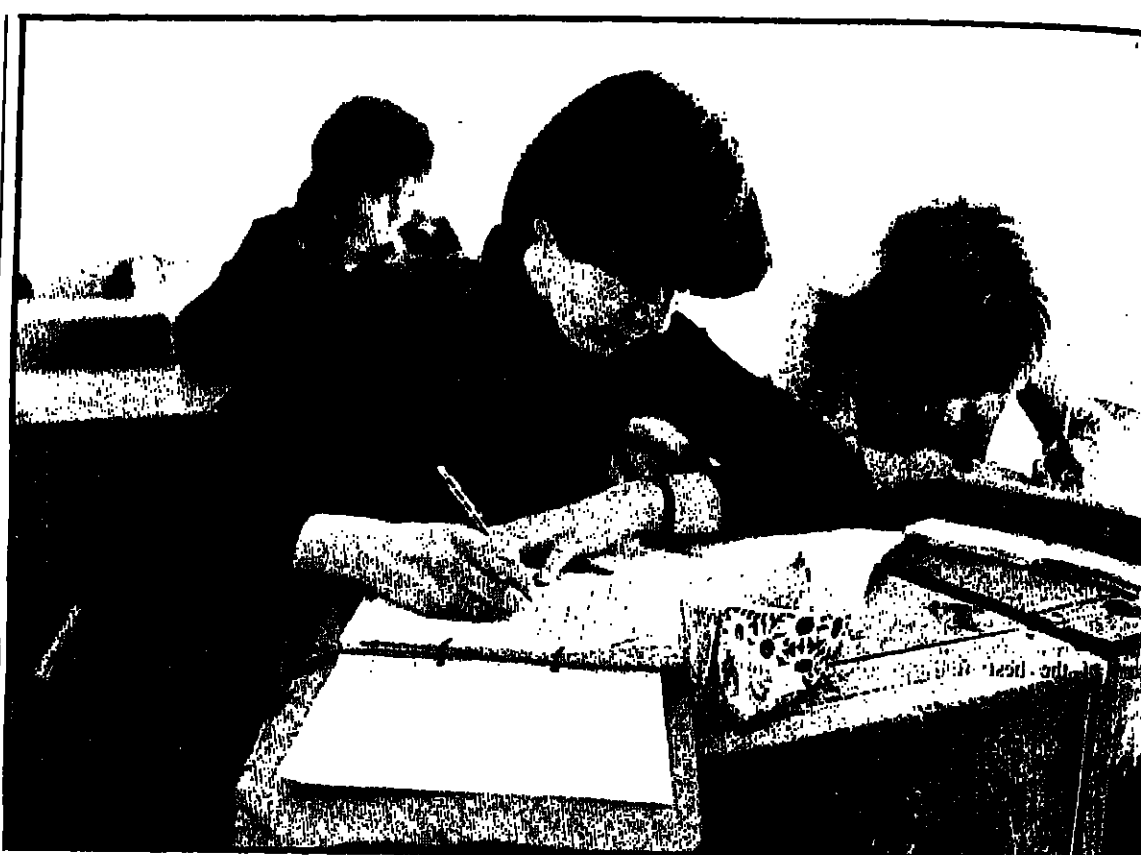
The focus on English in use is intended to develop students' understanding of the forms and functions of the language, which will make explicit their intuitive knowledge as native speakers, together with some conceptual awareness of the systems underlying language and language use. Understanding and awareness are examinable in ways which can be reasonably objectively assessed. The areas of English teaching which are concerned with, for example, personal writing, have not been included. It was felt that the focus upon the forms and functions of the language would provide a sufficient demand upon students' time and ability.

The proposed assessment objectives of the syllabus are for candidates to demonstrate:

- Some knowledge of the sound pattern, vocabulary and grammar of English and their relationship to meaning;
- Understanding of historical, geographical and social features of variety and change in English;
- Application of this knowledge and understanding to describe and analyse texts and transcripts of English, and to relate the linguistic features to function and context;
- The ability to describe some of the different features of written and spoken English, Standard and non-standard English, Received Pronunciation and other accents;
- Critical awareness of the differences between descriptive and prescriptive attitudes to language use; and
- Synthesis of their acquired knowledge and understanding to make general comment on English in use.

Whereas most current A level syllabuses in English Literature restrict the students' study to a relatively small number of specified literary texts, and give little, if any, explicit attention to literary theories which underlie critical appreciation, the proposed syllabus in English Language Studies recommends rather broadly-based topics for study, and is explicit in suggesting a conceptual framework within which to study the topics, by means of a selected list of texts. Any text in English, spoken or written, long or short, literary or non-literary, trivial or serious, contemporary or historical, is potential material for study, so teachers must have some guidance to help them select their material.

Varieties of English available for study are all around us, and include regional and social dialects and accents, the media, conversation and discourse, and the whole range of styles related to events and situations in everyday life which can be described as "the language of...". For example, advertising, religious services, teacher talk, and so on. The problem with providing a list of topics is that it may suggest that there does exist a finite set of varieties of English, discrete and



Students need to acquire the ability to examine texts and discover what is salient and stylistically prominent in them.

definable, which is not so. In practice we pretend that there is, but the defining boundaries of topics are fuzzy. "Language is context-bound, but the contexts are boundless." The draft syllabus suggests topics, therefore, but does not require or specify them in the way that set books are named in a literature syllabus.

What students would need to acquire is the ability to examine texts and discover what is salient and stylistically prominent in them. This demands skills in the analysis of either the patterns of sound, the vocabulary or the grammar of English, or in their relevant combinations. A primary distinction, for example, is that between written and spoken English and the

complex of contrasting features and uses by which they can be recognized. Knowledge of the formal features of phonology and grammar would be put to use and applied to real examples of the language and the interpersonal and social functions it serves. That is to say that the informing academic disciplines of English Language Studies are not only linguistics, but also the cognitive and social sciences, as far as they provide useful insights into the language and its speakers.

Just as a number of major topics are suggested but not prescribed, so also some guidance is given by means of a selected list of linguistic terms. It is well known that there is no standardized terminology, but there is a sufficiently agreed set of terms commonly used, which is included in the proposed syllabus description. The importance of terminology is, of course, that it implies and makes available a conceptual model of language which underlies descriptive and explanatory commentary. It provides the metalinguage, the tools of analysis, and within the syllabus is seen as secondary to the main aim of empirical investigation.

The principal innovation of the proposals is a Spoken Language project which forms the third of the three examination papers. It is a common-place of language study that speech is fundamental. Some linguists have claimed that writing is itself a secondary system, dependent upon speech. This view no longer commands general acceptance, but the importance of speech as a medium of language requires that any serious work on the language makes the study of spoken English a priority. It seemed to the working party that a three-hour written paper was not the best way of ensuring this priority, since it is quite possible to read and write about speech without making any practical study of it.

The proposed Spoken Language project therefore is based upon a study of authentic speech, which would be recorded on cassette tape, by the candidate. Up to five minutes of the recorded material would be transcribed, usually into ordinary spelling, and a study of about 3,000 words would be written in addition to the basic transcription, to provide a descriptive analysis and evaluation of the spoken material. The project would be assessed by the teacher, submitted two or three months before the final examination, and moderated by the Board.

The rest of the examination would consist of two three-hour written papers, the first being the Varieties of English paper and the second being the

Varieties of English paper, and the second to be called (provisionally) Aspects of English. Varieties consists of extended texts and transcripts for descriptive and contrastive analysis, while Aspects would require essay-type answers on language topics, calling for generalized exposition, and some questions containing short textual material, to form the basis of extended commentary.

It is not proposed that questions on phonetics, lexis and syntax should be included, unrelated to texts, but there would be no difficulty in including an optional section on specifically linguistic questions, if teachers so wished, subject to approval by the Board.

There is already evidence of considerable interest among teachers of English, many of whom will have had experience of language study in their English degree courses, while others will have acquired linguistic knowledge through in-service courses and private study – or will be prepared to do so. The lack of textbooks and teaching materials in published form, which are directly related to the new syllabus is a problem, but the writer has prepared a series of topic-based materials which are being used and tested by a number of teachers in schools and FE colleges in the present academic year, and publication will follow. Two summer school courses have already brought together interested teachers, and demonstrated some of the ways of teaching English Language Studies.

The new syllabus would not be a "soft option" for A level candidates who cannot manage the demands of the present English Literature courses, but neither would it be too daunting. There is, unfortunately, a stereotyped but uninformed opinion about linguistics and language study – that it is difficult, too abstract, "one more irrelevance" – and there is certainly much misunderstanding among teachers of English. Only knowledge and experience can change such opinions; argument certainly cannot. The fascination of language study for some can be extended to many more through a method of study that is both practical and soundly based academically. The A level English Language Studies syllabus proposed by the University of London is an attempt to provide this.

Dennis Freeborn is head of Language Studies at the College of Ripon and York St. John and chief examiner for the Varieties of English paper in the University of London English paper in the University of London. The paper expressed his own views.

EXTRA

The English language is not *that* important!

by Arthur Sefton

We have a most interesting little tale to tell – namely *that*. It tells the tale of the sad decline of grammar in our schools and the consequent serious decline of the English language since the Second World War.

No prewar matriculant, not even one who had little love of the language, would have said, "English is not *that* important", and Macaulay's famous schoolboy would not have said, "I am not *that* clever", for, had they done so, they would have committed grammatical solecisms.

As Eric Partridge has said in his *Usage and Abuse*, "This usage is a common colloquialism that is in England considered an illiteracy". This use of the word was formerly, in educated circles, regarded almost as an outrage. The ever increasing use of *that* as an adverb is a result of leaving the language almost entirely on the lips of the masses without any firm attempt by scholars and other academic authorities to control and rationalize it. Indifference, indiscipline and ignorance are battering and destroying some of the best features of our language.

That is just about the most remarkable word in the English language. It is a very important and extremely busy little word. Its correct use is the hallmark of the efficient writer and, in general, makes for clarity more than the correct use of any other single word. Ignorance is treating *that* most cruelly.

That may legitimately be used as any one of five different parts of speech, namely, a pronoun, an adjective, a conjunction, a relative pronoun and a relative adverb, the last two (the relatives) being forms of conjunction. These five basic uses are shown in the sentence:

On the day that I came, I saw that that that that man did was wrong.

The modern tendency to use *that* as an adverb is the product of nothing better than sheer ignorance and is harming the language. It is not so used by the great men of English such as Bradley, Fowler, Jespersen, Quiller-Couch, Curme, Onions, Nesfield and Partridge. Nor is it so used by any great writer except in the dialogue of the illiterate. Could anyone imagine, *Inter alia*, Sir Walter Scott, Lord Macaulay, Dickens, Thackeray, Trollope, the Brontë sisters, George Eliot, Conan Doyle or Sir Winston Churchill saying: "It's not *that* bad"; "I can't walk *that* far"; "Is it *that* terrible?"; "I'm teaching materials in published form which are directly related to the new syllabus is a problem, but the writer has prepared a series of topic-based materials which are being used and tested by a number of teachers in schools and FE colleges in the present academic year, and publication will follow. Two summer school courses have already brought together interested teachers, and demonstrated some of the ways of teaching English Language Studies."

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Making a case of it
The Casebook Series: Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream. Edited by Antony Price. Keats: Narrative Poems. Edited by John Spencer. Macmillan Press: £14.00 and £5.95 each.

Any book that reprints Richard Leveridge's 12-line poem about Lion, early eighteenth century in date but belonging in tone and spirit as much to our own day, is worth almost any price paid for it. As, almost always in the excellent series, the pieces represented are as widely representative as possible and include scholarly essays, critical articles on aspects of the play itself and

ance. Dr Onions tells us that *that* is demonstrative in origin. Nor should the adverbial use of *that* be justified on the grounds of idiom for, to cite Fowler, foolish idioms, of which we have many, are of no credit to the language or its users. The fewer we have, the better.

I am well aware that Sir Ernest Gowers, in his revision of Fowler's *Modern English Usage* wrote: "When (or adverbial phrase), the adverbial that (or in negative and interrogative sentences all that) has become a common colloquialism now well on its way to literary status."

Neither reason nor grammar is on his side. Inconsistently, but rightly, he acknowledges it is vulgar to say "I was *that* angry". Lexicographers and other scholars of English should resolutely denounce the ugly, harsh, and irrational use of *that* as a simple adverb.

Why did Gowers take this extraordinary view? I hazard a guess. Certainly, he had many excellences, but he was not a grammarian and, it seems, had no love for this declining species. He panted after a reputation for liberalism, and this apparently biased his mind towards accepting things he should not have accepted.

As Fowler pointed out over fifty years ago, we are not making the best use of our imperfect language. For example, one valuable improvement he recommended was a clearer distinction between the use of *that*, on the one hand, and *which* or *who* on the other. The following sentence is ambiguous:

There were very few passengers who escaped without serious injury.

The next one is not.

There were very few passengers that escaped without serious injury.

Fowler was right, but pressed his case too far by demanding that rather than *which* in almost every defining clause.

The next three examples come from Fowler:

It seems that the Derna that arrived safely was sent in the ordinary way.

That would be right only if there were several Dernas, of which only one arrived safely. Otherwise substitute which for that.

In the island of South Uist that I have come from, there is not one single tree.

Here, *that* would be right only if there were several South Uists from one of which I have come. In this case, the commas must be removed.

The foremost physical theorist that Britain has produced... that is better than whom. Who or whom is better for particular persons, that for generic.

That is not an easy word to use with impeccable correctness. H W and P G Fowler wrote the most elaborate discussions on its use. It is worth while to

study the correct use of *that* for it is liable to be much misused and to give rise to considerable obscurity. But it is not necessary to follow all the intricacies of the Fowlers' somewhat overdone articles in order to acquire a good working knowledge of this vital little word. Its correct use conduces to clarity, efficiency and elegance. A good test of a writer's efficiency is to examine the way he uses *that*.

The misuse of *that* and especially its use as a simple adverb is highly significant. That an irrational usage, which but a few decades ago was regarded as a gross illiteracy, should have gained wide acceptance signifies a lamentable and serious erosion of the language. To some, this may seem an unwarrantable assertion. But surely, a scholarly and disinterested inquiry would vindicate the reasonableness of this contention. The more carefully and knowledgeably the language is examined the more obvious is its decline.



The great grammarian H W Fowler in relaxed mood

Writers and speakers who go word-fowling (or fouling) with their blunderbusses should abstain from their verbal and syntax-maiming practices. We have a plague of vogue words and a vast number of blunderbuss words – words robbed of their precision by ill-trained writers. Gowers and Fraser give many examples of reprehensible modern writing – writing that is pompous, puerile, turgid in style and turbid in meaning.

We should learn of our great masters the accurate use of words, the efficiency of good syntax, the pleasing melody of good rhythm and, for some purpose, the grace of a sostenuto style. If William Wordsworth had been with us still, he might have written: *Fowler! thou shouldst be living at this hour: England hath need of thee.*

Before retirement Arthur Sefton taught English at the Princess Margaret Royal Free School, Windsor.

this collection as much as the Shakespeare student.

The introduction to *Keats: Narrative Poems* by John Spencer Hill provides a brief summary of the poems and explains their significance in the body of Keats's works. Part one is devoted to extracts from the poet's own letters, part two to nineteenth century viewpoints and part three to twentieth century studies. The central difference emerges clearly between the nineteenth century preoccupation with poetic structure and felicity of word and image and the twentieth century, characteristically more prosaic, quest for meaning with the occasional loss of true awareness of the nature of the poetry itself. As the editor explains, the task of selecting the modern critical essays was formidable and this may partly explain the vague sense of lack in part three.

Both volumes contain the usual competent notes and selected bibliography. Katya Watter

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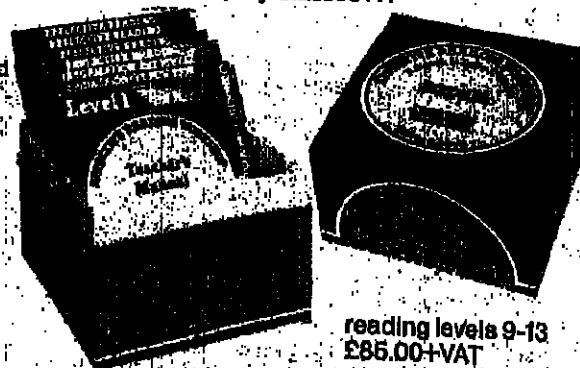
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O&B



One of the exquisite rivers of "Doone Country".

A sense of place

by Bryan Waites

How can we create the sense of place in the regional novel? Hardy's Wessex, Bennett's Potteries, Winifred Holtby's *South Riding* and Priestley's *West Riding* may be fiercely evoked through words but can we make them come alive in the classroom? And yet, to feel the countryside of *Giles Winterborne*, to know the communities and their environment in the Potteries surely must be an essential part of reading the books.

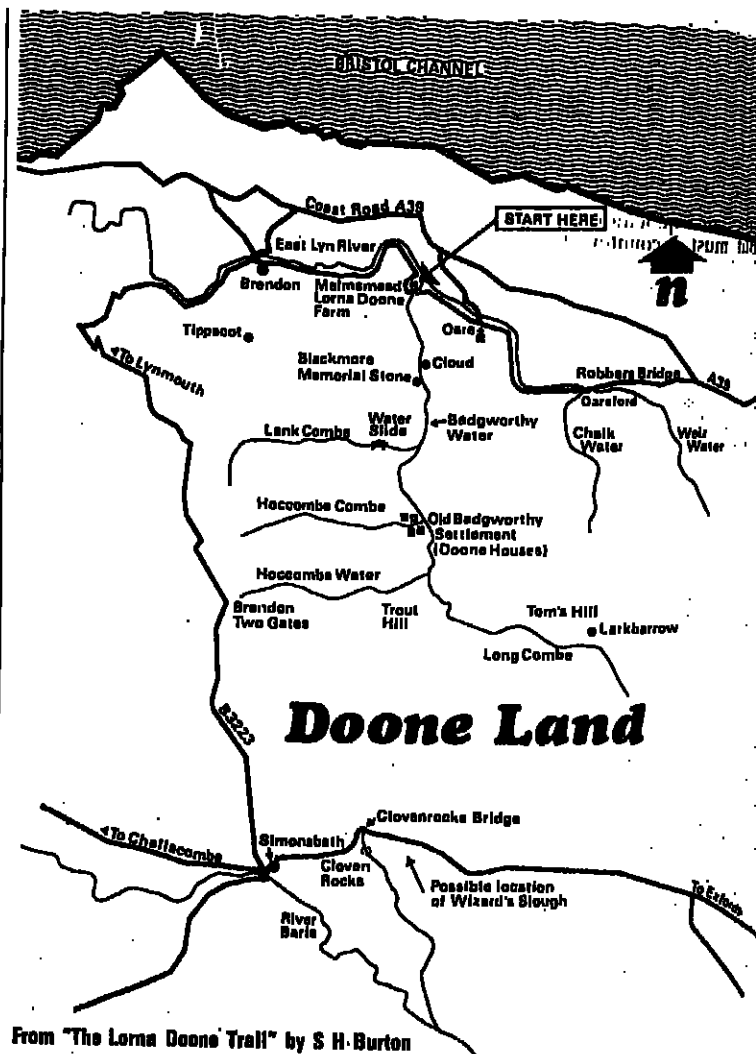
Geography, biology, even history may have its field courses but do teachers of English venture into the writer's environment as much as they should with their classes?

Lorna Doone may be a little respected book but it offers a good example of how a teacher can relate literature and landscape through field-work.

Its setting is the countryside and coast of Exmoor. It has the ingredients of the bestseller: true love, the struggle between beauty, hatred, oppression and cruelty; a superb villain; a wild, fearsome but lovely background; exciting deeds, suspense and a strong cast of supporting characters plus, in the end the triumph of good over evil. It is based on fact as the author pointed out: "... any son of Exmoor, chancing on this volume cannot fail to bring to mind the nurse-tales of his childhood - the savage deeds of the Doones, the beauty of the stupendous maid brought up in the midst of them, the plain John Ridd's Herculean power, and the exploits of Tom Faggus."

Can we go to Exmoor and turn detective to search out the remarkable scenes of the novel? Indeed, *Doone Land* can be found. It is not just a figment of the imagination. It can also be systematically traced by using passages from the book. John went to be schooled at Tiverton, a worthy grammar school the largest in the west of England, founded and handsomely endowed in the year 1604 by Master Peter Blundell. Where else but Old Blundell's? Tiverton figures more in the novel with Greenway's Almshouses and there is mention of the "very long and painful road" from Tiverton town to Dulverton. Dulverton emerges as an Exmoor metropolis where luxuries may be purchased and news of the outside world gathered. Roads ended here and the "black boggy" began.

But the true heart of Doone country begins at Lorna Doone Farm, Malmsmead. It lies near a ford where "Bagworthy water runs into the Llyn and makes a real river of it." Of course, there are other farms which might be identified also as Lorna Doone Farm and Bagworthy water was created by a local legend.



From 'The Lorna Doone Trail' by S.H. Burton

locations. However, from this farm you can proceed to discover the novel by going into the valley. Which valley most resembles the description? Is it Hoccombe or Lank Combe? Can you find the famous Waterside where John first met Lorna? Where is Doone Gate, Carver's House and the actual Doone Valley "carved from out the mountain in a perfect oval"?

The Ordnance Survey map had marked the "Doone Valley" so impressed were they with the impact of the novel, but in 1969 their location was challenged in a booklet entitled *Lorna Doone and the Doone Valley* by Sir Atholl Oakeley. This consists of a fascinating analysis topographically of the novel, eventually reaching the conclusion that the real Doone Valley was not that named by the OS but the next one, Lank Combe. This resulted in a change on the map, the OS playing safe by calling the area "Doone Country" instead of specifying one valley.

Such detective work could be attempted by a class using the booklet and the map. They could also use *The Lorna Doone Trail* by S.H. Burton which takes extracts from the book and relates them to the landscape which can be followed and questioned.

Not far away is Oare Church where the climax is reached and Lorna is shot by Carver Doone "darling eyes, the dearest eyes, the loveliest, the most loving eyes - the sound of shot rang through the church and those eyes were dim with death." Can you find the window he used? Exmoor and the north Devon coast

EXTRA

"But how do we know if it's supposed to be good or not"

David Self pleads for an approach to poetry in the sixth-form that is both creative and critical

As the A level examinations come inexorably closer, there returns a dark memory of the summer my first A level exam sat their papers. In preparation for the unseen literary appreciation question, we were discussing past poems. "But how do we know if it's supposed to be good or not?" I can still hear myself saying, "Well, they'll be asking you to write about the poem for 40 minutes, so they're unlikely to choose one they think is rubbish, so the chances are, they do expect you to think ..."

Oddly, no cock crowed. Fifteen years on, do I still give the same guarded answer? Or am I encouraged by such opinions as those of Bradley Winterton who, after two years' experience as an A level examiner, wrote in *The TES* (January 8, 1982): "One thing has depressed and saddened me both years - the quite extraordinary degree of similarity in the candidates' replies ... the same points being illustrated again and again by the same quotations."

But must I counter that plea for individuality with memories of a depressing hour which I spent last summer listening to a young Cambridge admissions tutor deriding students who 'arrive with their own ideas ... liking anything modern ... unable to see that 'classic' authors and poets are demonstrably better than others ..."

That same speaker went on to scorn attempts to introduce creative work into an academic syllabus and to argue for a rigorous and analytical approach to literature as being the only respectable one. Angered by his argument I nevertheless felt a guilty twinge in my conscience. After all, do I not believe that Pope is a better poet than Roger McGough and Jane Austen a better novelist than Barry Hines? So what advice do I now give the sixth former, uncertain how to respond to an unknown poem? Must it be said to be good? Are there absolute standards? Well, if that candidate is a borderline one and if the examination is close, might still compromise. "Don't write anything to mess up your chances. Having attempted to annihilate what turns out to be a much revered sonnet by Milton will be no

consolation when you're on the dole." But so far as next year's lower sixth is concerned, I believe there is time to ensure the question never arises.

The cause of the problem lies in the middle years of the secondary school where, naturally and properly enough, much discussion and written work is based on personal relationships and contemporary social concerns. Writing in a recent edition of *Spoken English*, the magazine of the English Speaking Board, Vivian Summers (until recently head of English at Queen Elizabeth's School, Crediton), noted this trend: "Many teachers feel that poetry that does not in some way relate to these issues can have no appeal to their pupils and ... anthologies are ransacked for 'relevant' modern material ... One wonders how often Peter Porter's poem, *Your attention please* has been discussed as a poem and how often it has been taken simply as a text for a discussion of nuclear disarmament." Valid though that latter use of the poem may be, such exclusive "use" of poems does result in many students remaining unfamiliar with poetry as poetry.

The situation is by no means always remedied at O level as Vivian Summers also noted: "Many experienced teachers will avoid choosing poetry if at all possible, for it is a fact well known to teachers and examiners that it is far easier to score marks when writing on plays or novels than on poetry. If you want your pupils to gain a good grade at O level in English literature, you advise them to steer clear of poetry!"

So how can young sixth formers be led from uncertainty bred of unfamiliarity to a position in which they feel confident of making informed critical judgments? The answer lies in that word "confident".

Whether or not their particular A level syllabus contains a creative or language component (as do, for example, some JMB, London and Cambridge alternative papers), I am convinced an A level English course must be both creative and critical, a belief which is the basis of my book. It is not an attempt at a cosmetic reconciliation between two contradictory approaches; it is born of my experience that critical skills are most effectively

developed in close conjunction with the process of composition, of writing.

After all, for a young student to spend two years studying art without ever putting brush to paper or canvas; to study carpentry without making anything; to study cookery without ever converting a recipe into a meal would be frustrating and stultifying. It would also be short-sighted as one of the most efficient ways of learning is by doing. So it is with literature.

To develop one of those analogies: it is possible to appreciate a chair without having made one. So it is with a poem. But in order to discuss, say, an antique chair, you must know something about anatomy. If, in addition, you have actually made a chair, even a basic kitchen one, then how much more informed and confident will be your appreciation of a Chippendale or Sheraton.

One reason the creative approach has in recent years become suspect is because it is thought by some to be an easy process, a soft option. All it seems to require is the spontaneous overflow of emotions in lines of verse each two words long. Quite deliberately I chose a Dylan Thomas manuscript as the cover illustration for *Creative and Critical*, showing how a poet had worked on a draft, honing and rephrasing images and ideas. The creation of a poem is a discipline as demanding as criticism and once students have experienced "the long toil that goes like blood to the poem's making", they will have the confidence to comment on another's toil. No longer will they need to resort to such desperate sentences as "In this poem the poet uses a lot of alliteration" when they run out of more perceptive comments.

Even more importantly, there is the chance that, once A level is over, and whether they study literature at university or not, they might have developed an interest that will enrich their later years. They might even continue to read or write the occasional poem entirely for enjoyment or personal satisfaction.

**Creative and Critical*, by David Self, was published last month by Harrap.

Unity with Nature

Lawrence and the Nature Tradition, by Roger Ebbatson. Harvester Press £5.95, 0 7108 0900 X. D.H. Lawrence: *The White Peacock*, edited by Andrew Robertson. Cambridge University Press £27.50, 0 521 2261 2. *The Boy in the Bush*, by D.H. Lawrence. Penguin £2.50, 0 460 01336 9.

Roger Ebbatson sees Lawrence's work as the culmination of a theme in writing that he deems crucial to the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: man's relation to Nature. The nineteenth century struggled not only with the advance of industrialism when the face of England changed, but also with the disruptive theories of evolution which displaced mankind from its hitherto accepted place in the cosmos and in nature. The new problem, looked by the novelists here studied, was to discover where man fitted in the reconstructed universe.

It is a commonplace that the Wessex countryside, notably Egdon Heath, is a character rather than a mere landscape in Hardy's novels. Roger Ebbatson demonstrates that this is true of the novelists he has selected for his study, namely: Meredith, Hardy, Jeffries, Mark Rutherford, E.M. Forster and above all Lawrence. It could almost be said that his claim is that in these nature is the principal character, cer-

tainly she is seen in relation to man as the Earth is to Antaeus - a very different concept from that of the passive background figure that ends up "in the kitchen of Cold Comfort Farm". It is shown here that, different in style and approach though their work may be, these authors share a conviction that it is the active power of nature that gives life and strength and, alienated from it, man is denied a grasp on reality and truth.

In his introduction, Roger Ebbatson presents and compares the theories of philosophers, poets and novelists who share "that sense of transcendent unity with Nature" but whose interpretations differ about what this means. Summarizing philosophical theories is always difficult but the presentation here of the beliefs of the Romantics, and the impact upon them of pantheism and the necessary summary of the ideas underlying the work of the writers discussed. The study begins and ends with Lawrence, examining his indebtedness to his predecessors and the contribution he himself makes.

The detailed studies of selected books illustrating the approach of each of the authors reveal a deep knowledge and understanding of the conflict they were attempting to resolve between spiritual (or romantic) concept of the world. Although some of the ideas and assessments may be controversial, they are challenging and encourage a re-reading of the novels from a new viewpoint.

This authoritative edition of *The White Peacock* is that of the now correctly established text and includes a detailed record of textual variations, fragments of text of *Laetitia* and *It*; as the first versions were named, a map of

the district in which the story is set and an introduction containing the history of the struggles for publication and contemporary criticism. The account of Lawrence's working out of the text and the comments of those to whom he submitted the various drafts throws light on his problems and on his aims. The explanatory notes are exhaustive but not cumbersome.

The Boy in the Bush is a successful blend of adventure and of the developing to vigorous manhood of a typically Lawrence hero as he struggles with the rough inhabitants of a pioneer country finding at last his fulfilment.

Katya Watter

Wilful

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EXTRA

A literature losing touch

Stephen Wade raises some questions about the nature of literature in our society

In recent years the challenges to conventional literature teaching have meant that the Leavisites' ship has been rocked by severe storms. As a teacher of English Literature, I have been forced to reconsider the assumptions about literature that I made (or was given) at college.

Structuralism, the New Criticism, the claims of popular writing, creative writing and many other pursuits have impinged on those cosy areas of Richards and Leavis-based practical criticism teaching. No longer can a committed teacher of literature feel confident that the pre-eminence of literary studies may be guaranteed and defended with certainty.

For this reason, I would like to raise some questions about the status and nature of literature in our society as it affects education and culture – and therefore, of course, ultimately affecting communication.

First I must explain what has motivated me to write down my thoughts. While studying H. Coombes' introduction to the elements of poetry, *Literature and Criticism* a discussion began in my A level class regarding the concept of "sincerity". This arose from some of Coombes' remarks on poetic feeling. He referred to the "emotional backwardness" of people who persist in admiring "romantic" works. I found myself having to explain to the students the difficulty of taking Coombes' position and that literature was not something confined exclusively to people over twenty one who had "seen life" and had learned through "suffer-

ing" and experience.

I learned a lot from this, but I found that most students were certain that Coombes' criteria of judgement were limited, too rigorous, artificial and elitist. The question that summed up the reasoning was, "Why does experience have to be dressed up in words, giving an artificial effect?"

What I suggest is that literature teaching and exposition, at all levels, has to recognise the validity (and necessity) of the claims of the contemporary world regarding the preference for "message" over "medium". Style in its subtlety or even in its high grandiloquence, is a charm – a lotus-eater's thralldom – but we live in an age when there are important things to be said. The factual and didactic aims of literature are too pressing to be denied. One only has to consider the writing that is emerging from racial minorities in Britain to perceive that our traditional emphasis on style is now inadequate – at least in its present form. Linton Kwee Johnson is as directly didactic as Milton but the richness of his word-hoard is like a heap of gravel to Milton's mountain. There is no need for him to absorb such numerous stylistic features.

Similarly, the importance of subjective experience to the individual in society now has meant that the effort of the writer to "analyse coolly" (in Coombes' words) has been devalued. Young people now ask why, after seeing someone die in a car crash, a writer would need to go home and adapt his original response into what

may, from one point of view, be seen as "artificial" language. I would answer that the mass of words available in that writer's O.E.D. would provide him with an account of his feelings that would be much more valuable and communicative than his initial words of emotional reaction – but I doubt whether my answer would suffice.

Lastly, in any list of contemporary challenges to tradition in this area, I would cite the proletarian element in modern writing. The universities have placed Orwell high in their accepted Great Works yet the attitude of "high seriousness" and elaborate concern for form and style is reflected in the eternally present Major Writers on whom the critical industry is based: Lawrence, Joyce, Woolf, Eliot, Pound, Forster, Conrad, etc. Writers such as Jack Common, James Hanley, Henry Green, Silhouette or Story have a long time to wait before admittance to the canon.

In the thirties and Forties, proletarian literature is extremely energetic promoter, the admirable John Lehmann, in his *Penguin New Writing* and minor writers, steelmen writers and shipyard-writers abounded. This has now disappeared and the precious stylists are back in the top storeys of the high rise blocks of literature again.

In terms of its literary culture, Britain is once more in a Two Nations state – the elitist and the popular. Nearly all the measures that have been taken to try and remedy this have failed.

Some brave spirits in university departments are battling with courses on Chandler, Tolkien or "recent northern fiction" and so on, but the promotion of literature in journalism, reviews and magazines is still dominated by the didactic, bourgeois, exclusive tradition of literature "as moral guide" school. Literature is a test of the reader's experience, a touchstone, comparison, criterion for self-assessment – but it is also primarily an urgent communication within Wordsworth's idea of "the language of common men".

Even our critics' views of proletarian writers are coloured by the nebulous criteria of academic criticism of the narrow kind. We want, surely, the musty smell of the study out of the claustrophobic room in which our literature is being stored; let us open the windows and take notice of the living world with living words.

Teachers of literature, from school to university, need re-educating – perhaps by each other! A crash course in how to remove assumptions and inflexible standards is my suggestion. Any English teacher would enjoy teaching the subject more if he wasn't aware of his own grim mentors at his back all day. Thank goodness there is one form of literature that is showing us the way – the drama. It is now teaching our literatures (and perhaps it always has tried to) some lessons: the Edgar, Fugard, Shaffer and other contributions have informed me of the value of flexibility and contemporaneity in the text-performance classi-

fications of the genre. And I do mean both classifications.

There are many more instances of the limitations of our literary culture, but finally, what we all need to learn is our attitudes. I feel, is that literature is essentially a subversive activity both the personal and at the societal level: the worst or least it can do is comfort in our smug little homes, routines and beliefs. Sometimes, in rather moments, one longs for the lyrics of ballads of the jinglers and gerybards open plays, when, one presumes, criticism, meant voting with one's feet.

The young literatures of the world are reminding sophisticated Europeans of what simplicities we once had – our *Beowulf* and even our biblical mangers – reminding us also of how simple narrative used to develop the intellectually complex struggle with the relevant style and density of vocabulary. I felt that our literacy was losing touch with life before I read Naipaul's remarks in *The Overcrowded Barracoon* but having read that, I now feel sure that we are a dangerous course. Naipaul says the way we grow learned in Dickens and read Angus Wilson: the next generation will be learned on Angus Wilson and will have discovered the next "revelatory" literary figures. In this way our literacy goes on losing touch with the widest, most fundamental elements of our society. It is not a desirable or healthy trend; only our educationalists can turn the tide, with a little help from publishers and culture's PR men.

On the road

The Canterbury Tales: a Reading. By Derek Travers. The Bodley Head £11.95. 0 370 30546 9. £6.50. 30547 7.
The Structure of The Canterbury Tales. By Helen Cooper. Duckworth £24.00 and £7.95.
A Guide to Chaucer's Language. By David Burnley. Macmillan £15.00. 0 333 33531 7. £5.95 33532 5.

The first two books here are concerned with theme and structure in *The Canterbury Tales*, and both seek to find Chaucer's way as existing behind his very diverse collection.

Derek Travers's argument in the first part of his work deals with the Order of Pilgrimage, its account framed by an introduction and conclusion, and up the end of part two (Marriage and 'Maistrie') he argues that the tales discussed thus far are organized, definitely if loosely, round certain 'node' points, notably *The Knight's Tale*, and then – in the central portion – the Wife of Bath's lengthy confession. Part two thus explores the meaning of marriage as viewed through the eyes of several of the pilgrims, especially the Wife, the Clerk, and the Merchant. Finally, the author breaks off from this theme to consider some stories 'which seem to bring out separate, but fundamentally important, aspects of the human condition', namely those of the Pardoner, the Canon's Yeoman and the Nun's Priest.

Travers's rationale for giving us his thoughts on Chaucer is that, together with Dante's *Commedia*, his *Tales* constitute the greatest literary achievement of the Middle Ages. I am not sure that the obscure cleric William Langland, author of *Piers Plowman*, does not have prior claim, but both he and Chaucer are essentially interested in one theme, that of pilgrimage, which, as children of their age – even though they transcend it – they understand as a fundamental and primary symbol of the process of human life. "A passage through a world of shadow, which is indeed, humanly speaking, the only world we have," he would say, though, which points beyond itself, though, which like Dante's criticism of medieval literature over the past few years, the

tone of the book seems a little over-solemn and lacking in the humour which characterizes the high comedy of the human condition which the intellers themselves express with such expertise (surely, for example, the Wife's strictures on *Limbo* and others hooley freres" are, before everything else, highly sardonic and therefore totally hilarious); nevertheless, I appreciate the author's remarks on *The Miller's Tale* as a "brilliant corrective" to its predecessor, on its "unobtrusive artlessness" to which the Reeve's acts as a counterpoint; on the "great portrait" of the Wife, and her triumphant affirmation of life in the presence of mortality.

Helen Cooper tackles "structure" from a different angle: her initial thesis is that *The Canterbury Tales* demands to be looked at whole and should be compared with other collections of stories. She thus examines three different types of collection, before turning to Boccaccio, and then to Gower and Chaucer.

At this point, since Chaucer left his work, apparently incomplete, in a number of groups or fragments, the author is forced to consider the basic question of what Chaucer himself (as distinct from early scribes and editors) intended the order of the tales to be. She concludes that the best evidence is argument from theme: in *The Canterbury Tales* is "a series of grouped stories", the groups being of uncertain order, but the stories within them being linked by Chaucer's concern "to bring out a number of interrelated themes", with "lines of contact going off in a number of directions from any given point".

A chapter on Chaucer as an encyclopaedist – the compiler of a *summa* incorporating a rich variety of genres (romance, beast-fable, sermon, epic, fabliau, saint's life), the themes of the work and the pilgrims themselves being no less various – prefaces the central portion of the book, an examination of *The Knight's Tale* as "a dynamic introduction to the story-telling", plus 100 pages, with much acute observation, on links within the fragments, which is concerned with finding relationships between the tales contained in them.

Some of the motifs discussed here are now brought together into single focus – fortune, providence and suffering, "female saints and wicked wives" (which embraces the much-analysed "marriage group"), have been brought together in the larger issue of the women ques-



tion", and others.

Finally – is there a "moral kernel", a doctrine, to be extracted from Chaucer's masterpiece? The answer has to be that any conclusions can only be "multiple". Chaucer, like Langland, knew that there were no firm moral conclusions to be drawn: the pilgrimage to Truth must start anew.

David Burnley's accurately-named "guide" demonstrates with admirable lucidity that literary themes must be articulated through the earth-bound media of grammar and vocabulary. The first part contains an enormously useful outline of Chaucer's grammar, and the remarks on time and tense (especially on auxiliaries and on perfect-present variation), multiple negation and the like will be invaluable to all whose pleasure it is to expound the text, whether to sixth formers or undergraduates.

The second part is more concerned with style and register, and is particularly illuminating on the extensive variety of contemporary language which was available for Chaucer to draw upon, on the contribution of the French and Norse elements to different styles of composition, on *terme* (legal, literary, etc) and *propre* (legal, literary, etc) and on "low" and "high" style. Dr Burnley is quite right: an awareness of Chaucer's underlying stylistic subtlety is required in order to appreciate the effects "which the most urbane poet of the period could summon up from the opportunities offered to him by his language".

Martin Wakelin

Philosophy and English A level

Trevor Eaton suggests a syllabus

As an undergraduate at Oxford in the late fifties, I became dissatisfied with the theoretical foundations of English as a subject. Indeed it appeared to me that the pursuit had no theoretical foundations. This disquiet grew during my years as lecturer in a university English department. The sense that intellectual violations are taking place in the name of academic enquiry has increased with the years.

In those days an external examiner improved me, "You will have to be careful that your approach to English does not become barren." That was 20 years ago. Through a very inversion of perspective – though I did not say – the grasslands of literary criticism upon which he was standing looked to me, where I was, arid. They still do.

Here is why I think them so. Many academics in university English departments, refuse to consider the relevance of other disciplines, most notably philosophy, psychology, linguistics and history, to the study of literature. This occasions many bizarre distortions. It means that activities in the subject are confined to a small section of literary studies. Courses in text grammars, text reception, theory of speech acts, narratology, modal logics, logic of fiction, possible worlds – the whole region which in 1963 I baptized as "literary semantics" – are now established at many continental and American universities. Upon English departments here, except for those committed to an interdisciplinary approach, the impact has been slight. To come to the point of this article, these fields of research have had no influence upon the GCE English syllabuses. This imperviousness grows from a rooted belief that the function of an English department, be it in university or school, is to provide a training in literary criticism. I call advocates of this view "academic critics".

Academic critics presume that there is something necessarily therapeutic, or even virtuous, in the reading of a work of literature. The literary course becomes a moral quest. This confusion of cognitive enquiry with "improvement" leads to a cynical distortion: the employment of examinations in English as a measure of the humanity of the candidate, rather than as a test of his intellectual powers. Humanity – and who is to distinguish the genuine from the counterfeit? – thus becomes the means of ascending the ladder of ambition.

Again, academic critics, generally speaking, refuse to define their terms and fail to enquire into literature. They seem incapable of examining the levels and modalities of their own discourse, critical of all else save their own assertions. This is what primarily differentiates literary semantics from literary criticism: the literary semanticist is philosophically critical of his own discourse.

Expounding, as most academic critics do, the view that literature has a special ontological status and that literary experience is discontinuous from non-literary awareness, they frequently defend themselves with the dictum "English is different".

That these critics are oblivious of other disciplines may be seen in the way that students are trained to consider and to talk about fictional characters as if they were real human beings. The concept of fictionality itself is surely at least as important in the study of literature as why Iago or the Pardoner happened to behave in the way they did. They are taught too, these students, glibly to employ words such as good, great, successful, contrived, with without any training in ethics or aesthetics.

This is not just a lack of background material. A work of literature consists in language. Yet pupils are expected to speak of rhyme, rhythm, alliteration, metaphor, sentence-structure, poetic diction without any knowledge of linguistics. Even clause analysis, which did at first seem to be a means of talking

about the discourse they used and considered has, with the connivance of the modern-language teachers, who should have known better, long since become anathema.

Similarly, a literary work exists only by reason of the fact that a living brain has produced it and another living brain interprets it. Students of literature, however, receive no grounding in psychology. Meanwhile, the critics continue to be preoccupied with how people ought to read, rather than with how particular persons do read. English in this way turns its back upon empirical discovery.



Creative English class in a Belfast school

Yet again, a work of literature is an act in history. But literary works are often, by no means always, treated by teachers as if they exist outside space and time. This leads to neglect of a further important distinction between "author's meaning" and "reader's meanings".

With these objections in mind, I present my draft proposal for a new A Level in Philosophy and English, which comprises six papers. The syllabuses are just sketches to indicate the sort of coverage which might be expected:

● **PHILOSOPHY**
Paper 1 *Philosophy*: knowledge, perception, a priori, a posteriori, causality, determinism, explanation, induction, explanatory and descriptive adequacy, ethics, aesthetics.

Paper 2 *Logic*: propositional, predicate calculus, truth tables, truth trees, natural deduction, axiomatic systems, set theory, switching theory, syllogisms and logic diagrams, logical form and some grasp of the philosophical problems of logic.

Paper 3 *Psychology*: methods of investigation, the nature of psychological evidence, the nervous system, levels of explanation, stimulus-response, conditioning, behaviourism (and its extensions), perception, memory, intelligence, language, psycholinguistics. A separate section would deal with the psychological processes involved in reading: the differences between linguistic transmission and reception. Experimental course-work based upon this section would be presented by the candidates.

● **ENGLISH**
Paper 4 *Linguistics*: phonetics (including phonemic transcription of passages in English), writing systems, morphology, inflections, lexicology, etymology, syntax, semantics; deep and surface-structure, tree-diagrams, competence, performance, native speakers' intuitions, grammaticality, Bloomfield, Skinner, Chomsky; ambiguity, register, dialect, deviance, diachronic v. synchronic, syntagmatic v. paradigmatic relations, universals, usage, prescription v. description.
Paper 5 *History of the English Language*: the language of the world, the

Indo-European family; Old English, Middle English, Modern English (using a text such as A. C. Baugh). An exercise would be set which required candidates to assign given, unseen passages to an approximate date, giving reasons.

Paper 6 *History of English Literature*: stylistics, stylistic analysis; an outline of the periods of English literature, two periods to be studied in more detail with set texts.

Candidates would sit six, or any three, of the papers. The possible passes would be:

Papers 1-3: A level in Philosophy.
Papers 4-6: A level in English.
Papers 1-6: to count as two separate A levels, one in Philosophy, the other in English.

Any three papers (with at least one from Philosophy and at least one from English A level in Combined Philosophy and English).

Just how this examination would remedy some of what I see as the deficiencies of the present GCE A level English syllabuses will be clear. Pupils would emerge from the courses having read fewer literary texts than now but with a better awareness of the place of language in the world.

Apart from the entrenched resistance to change, there are two obvious objections to introducing such a syllabus:

Firstly, few teachers would have the expertise to teach all six papers. The scheme, however, is so flexible that any combination of three papers is admitted. Its implementation might encourage the appointment of trained philosophers, psychologists, and theoretical linguists in schools. These specialists, many of whom have a great deal to contribute to secondary education, are at present debarré from employment because, with a few exceptions – e.g. AEB A Level Psychology – there is no subject for them to teach.

The second objection is that philosophy, logic, psychology and theoretical linguistics would be beyond the capacity of sixth-formers. This I know not to be the case, having myself taught most elements of the above syllabus to secondary-school pupils for many years. Certainly, my scheme would demand students of a higher calibre than some who at present opt softly for English. But, in my experience, the greater the intellectual challenge, the better the response.

Trevor Eaton, who in 1972 founded, and has since edited, *Journal of Literary Semantics* (Headquarters, University of Kent) has published *The Semantics of Literature, Theoretical Semantics and (ed.) Essays in Literary Semantics*.

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EXTRA

Reasons for rhetoric

by James Sale

One of the big - and well documented - problems that the teacher of English has to face is the question of content: how far should his teaching be concerned with imparting rules, and how far with developing creativity?

For most teachers rules preclude the creative; and for most others, creativity is just nonsense - no way to write properly at all. To break this dichotomy down is difficult, yet necessary. As several influential writers have noted, we have moved away from the "self-expressive" 1960s to a view of language in the 1980s that is merely functional. The danger is that in having this view the possibility of personal meaning, of involvement, is lost. Peter Abbs (*English Within the Arts*, 1982), while accepting that no discipline possessed a "monopoly in explanation", deplored the dominance of science, and the way art tended to be judged by its prevailing categories. Certainly English teaching - largely through the twin influences of linguistics and sociology - has shifted towards a quasi-scientific approach. This has had implications in two important areas: literature is increasingly treated as material for non-literary pursuits; the imaginative is suppressed under the weight of all the necessary "metalinguistics".

Where is relief to be found? In

institutes of higher education? Hardly, they themselves advance the rot. Anne Stevenson (*TES*, October 21 1983) claims that to study English at university level is creative suicide. John Barie (*Poetry Wales*, 18.1) draws parallels between current academic activity and the decline of the Roman Empire: the insidious arrival of commentaries on commentaries. Nicholas Tredell (*PN Review* 37) spouts out some of the more sinister implications.

As many recently have re-assessed, English teaching is concerned with art; therefore, as well meaning (or not) as the "scientific" approach is, its effects can only be destructive. At the same time, it is manifest that the "creativity" emphasis of the 1960s signally failed to produce the results that had been hoped for - among other things, that liberation of the imagination cannot be measured with great art, and on a more mundane level, that public which cares about literature.

What Peter Abbs calls the "great tradition" (*Pace Leavis*) and the "progressive movement" (the education of the poetic spirit, *Pace Hourd*), and which he held united in the work of David Holbrook, are now in decline: the socio-linguistic school is in the ascendant. What insights there may be to gain from this newer school of thinking ought to be embraced. Certainly the criticisms of the linguists that made the shift in sensibility possible must be answered. For example, P S Doughty (*The Relevance of Linguistics for the Teacher of English*, 1968) criticized the lack of planning that frequently characterized teaching that emphasized the creative, "the individual moment". If the essential thrust of the "great tradition/progressive movement" is to regain its impetus, then it must counter the charge that basically means: you teach nothing except sloppy, uncoordinated effusiveness; enthusiasm replaces knowledge; anarchy supplants creativity; and the net result is a nation of illiterates.

This, of course, has already been realized by those sensitive to the winds of change. A movement is afoot to try to introduce a more specific content to the teaching of English, but one that does not fall into the pedantic with which we are already nearly overwhelmed. Some of the groundwork for this was done by Anne Cluysenaar (*Introduction to Literary Stylistics*, 1976), where she attempted to assimilate linguistics into the English activity. Her attempt was brave, but not convincing. Her insights seem superior to her practice. Her most significant insight is seeing the writer as "verbal artist". The Association of Verbal Art and The Schools Poetry Association are both involved in promoting this idea. Peter Abbs says, "we must now take into a new synthesis, the radical reconstitution of English as art"; and David Orme (*TES*, November 25 1983) writes: "Any craft, whether it be making furniture or writing stories and poems, requires skill acquired by hard graft." This is the problem becomes one of knowledge of the skills themselves, and of successfully disseminating information concerning the same, so that it is everyone's expectation that the teacher of English should be concerned with such matters. What are these skills?

There are hopeful indications that rhetoric is returning. Jonathan Culler (*The Pursuit of Signs*) speaks of it as "once again a flourishing discipline", but with the proviso that "much of this activity is focused on metaphor", and this because metaphor has become the figure of speech, and so represents rhetoric itself. What is rhetoric? Not the scientific, but the artistic analysis

of language. As C S Lewis observes (*English Literature in the Sixteenth Century*), "nearly all our older poetry was written and read by men to whom the distinction between poetry and rhetoric, in its modern form, would have been meaningless." If we wish to understand verbal art, then rhetoric supplies a genuinely congenial mode of doing so.

To be brief, let me now outline some of my work in using rhetoric to teach English literature in a typical Comprehensive. Consider *Romeo and Juliet*, 3.1.57-110. The situation: Juliet informed by Nurse that Romeo has slain Tybalt. Knowing simply two facts - Juliet is Tybalt's kinswoman; Juliet loves Romeo - we may deduce without further reference to the play that there must be a conflict of emotion in Juliet's mind: her love has killed one she loves. That is the essence of the situation. Stated baldly, it is not more than mildly interesting; but how does Shakespeare state it? What language does he use? Does rhetoric make any significant addition to our understanding?

Confused about what to think of Romeo? Ozymorion will do nicely: "fiend angelical...damned saint...honourable villain". How emphatic the Nurse is by way of contrast: "No...no...no...all...all...all...these" are examples of antithesis, personification, and isocolon. But how can Juliet bear to hear Romeo so contradicted? Her thinking slips to a more supportive attitude. Language correspondingly slips - polyptoton: "shame is ashamed". Rapiers out then: "Will you speak well of him that killed your cousin?" "Shall I speak ill of him that is my husband?" Blow for blow: personification, antithesis, and Romeo, the "him", the centre of attention in both lines. Now the decisive figure of speech that it resolves it. Of course the Nurse's words are true, and so there is a conflict of interest - Juliet's emotions towards Romeo have been thwarted, crossed by Romeo's action; yet she loves him: chiasmus -

"My husband lives, that Tybalt would have slain; And Tybalt's dead, that would have slain my husband"

James Sale teaches English at Hampton Park School, Southampton.

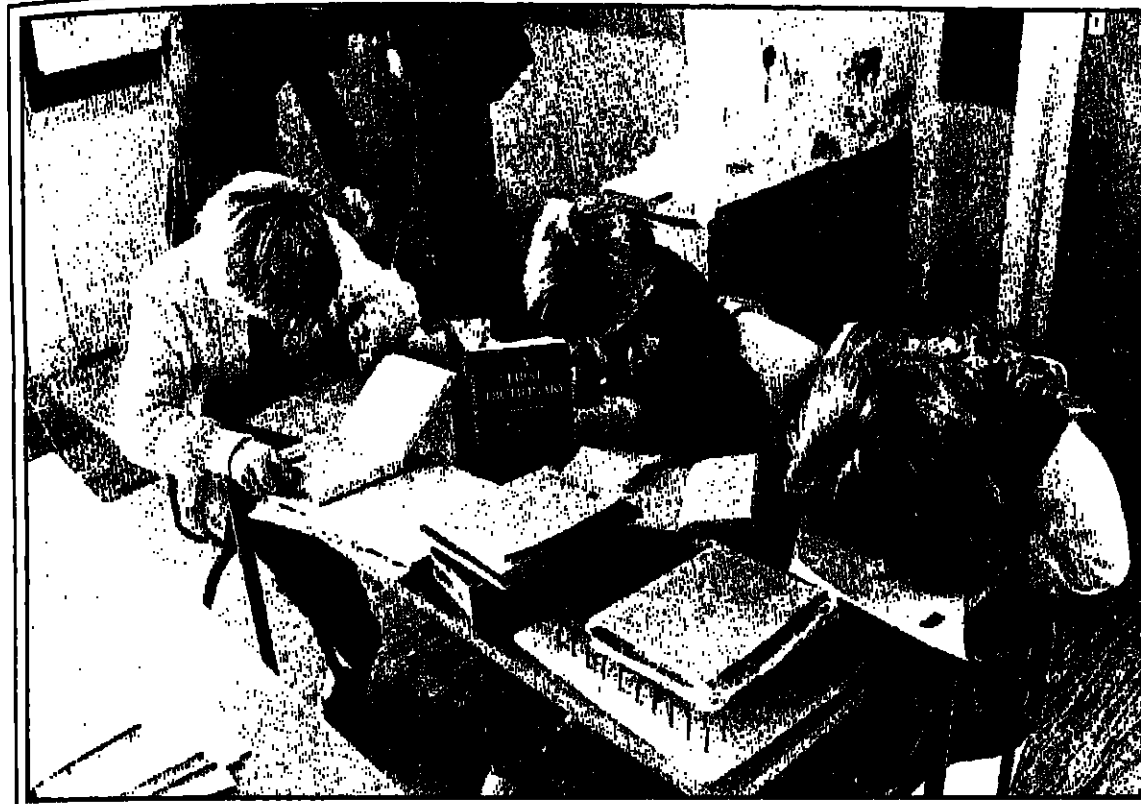
These two lines capture her attempt to sort the confusion out. Look at the resolution: is obtained: the figure chiasmus - enables "husband" to be first and last in her thoughts - subject of the first verb and object of the last. The figure balances the tension. Many other figures are used in this passage. Their difficulty lies in their names, not their function. The figures provide a real insight into the psychology of the situation. This is verbal art, not just talking about verbal art.

In teaching this - so far in very small doses - to third and fifth year groups at Hampton Park, I find there is little difficulty in pupils perceiving the figures. The terminology is, though, more intimidating. That seems to me a small price to pay. One group - The Inklings - I asked to use the figures in their creative writing. The best piece produced was by Mary Cook, called "Rhetoric". The ultimate end of rhetoric is to conceal art. In this piece the artistry is still visible, but what an achievement nonetheless.

Rhetoric
Hell is far distant from us
But I wish you there!
You cause me such anguish,
You cause me such uncertainty,
For when I am with him, I wish I were with you
And when I am with you, I wish I were with him.
He is so loving, so kind,
So...
He is so dependable.
You bring me excitement,
You make me live.
But the excitement brings guilt
Which is tearing me apart,
And ruining my life.
Why did our lives touch? This is not living!
I must leave you, I cannot continue
Deceiving myself that you love me
Deceiving him in my love for you.
Let us part before this love turns to hate.
Mary Cook

James Sale teaches English at Hampton Park School, Southampton.

EXTRA



At work in the school library. No one would accuse the best writers of not being creative because they do a lot of research before putting their thoughts on paper.

Making a good beginning

David Bell offers some thoughts on developing creative writing with children

Primary school teachers are often unsure about how to handle children's creative writing. Possibly no other area of the primary curriculum has suffered so much from the influence of diverse, and sometimes ridiculous, theories. The breath of fresh air that swept through primary education in the 1960s freed teachers and pupils from the oppressive influence of mechanical, routine tasks in writing, but it left many teachers confused in their approach to creativity. Even today, there is still a degree of uncertainty in the curriculum dealing with written language.

The problem still seems to be that teachers are unsure what kind of "discipline" should be imposed on writing in which the children provide language and structure of their own. There has always been the fear that any restrictions could stifle creativity and such a precious flower might not re-emerge. Yet there are few children who can show absolute creativity in the sense that they can produce a piece of creative writing without any assistance from the teacher. A title or subject is a form of help but usually a teacher will go beyond this and provide some vocabulary or structure. Sometimes a little stimulus will be needed, often a lot of work will be involved before the children have enough material. This can often depend on the ability of the children to provide vocabulary without the teacher feeding ideas in.

There is often a tendency for adults to expect children to do something that they themselves would find very difficult. How many adults, faced with a title or an idea, could be creative without first gathering their thoughts or providing themselves with some extra material. No one would accuse the best writers of not being creative just because they do a lot of research before putting their thoughts on paper. Children's creative writing ability is a developing skill. It would be strange to assume that a child would have absolute proficiency in, for example, mathematics or science at age eight or nine. So why should it be assumed that children have nothing to learn about creative writing after they leave the first school stage? Younger children are only beginning to experiment with continuous prose having mastered the more mechanical elements of writing. As they progress, their writing often exhibits

certain characteristics, for example, a tendency to write down whatever comes into the head even if it is not relevant at that particular moment. Or, another example, children often confuse verb tenses at this stage. A sensitive teacher will use these errors to develop the ability of the child. Present errors are built on to ensure future success.

The subjects chosen to be written about are also important. Putting a title on the blackboard and expecting a good piece of creative writing in return is to be very optimistic. The children need a context, preferably one that is connected to the other work being done in class. Creative writing should not only be seen as writing "stories". Reports, letters, application forms, descriptions, will all develop the child's ability to communicate on paper. Again, these must be done in a context. "Practising" letter writing will never be as useful as, for example, writing to one of the characters in a school programme like *Look and Read* and knowing that a reply will come back. If the teacher is choosing the subject he should be prepared occasionally to contribute a piece of work as well.

If the creative writing is considered to be a valuable product, children must be allowed to refine their work through a number of stages or drafts. This has always been a controversial point. Should the child's work be corrected in any way (spelling, punctuation, style) or should it be accepted exactly as it is? Initially, the temptation is to accept the work as it stands, but to do this is a disservice to the child's creativity. Most children are happy to accept constructive comment, provided that they are allowed to say why they have done something. The children learn from their mistakes and are often quite amused to see their most glaring mistakes pointed out to them. The correction of spelling then becomes an improvement to the initial creative impulse and the principle of design modification which is present in language work. If the initial work is worthless, the child is likely to be aware of it before the teacher. It is a bad principle to learn if children think that it does not matter what they say or how they say it, as long as they say it. Even children with learning difficulties can, supported by a teacher, learn to

appropriate to their abilities, is set.

Such creative work is valuable, not just to the creator, but also to the reader. It is extremely important that creative writing does not remain in a folder, seen only by the pupil and the teacher. Presentation is very important even if it is only on the walls of the classroom. A variety of outlets should be sought for a finished piece of writing. Other classes could be invited to hear a series of readings, a book of stories could be produced and circulated among other local schools, work could be displayed in local libraries and so on.

Because presentation is so important children should be encouraged to rewrite a good copy. At first drafts might be heard but provided the teacher is sensible and does not insist on this every time, the children will soon ask to "write it out in good writing". If used intelligently, such opportunities can lead on to finding out how well-known authors refine their work through first drafts and good copies. There is also a responsibility on the teacher to ensure that the work is well displayed. If possible, writing should be mounted on coloured paper or card and displayed in a prominent position at eye level.

Creative work is a particular product of a particular time and is a stage in his developing ability to write creatively. For that reason, it is important that the children keep a record of their creative work in a "writing dossier". If the work has been attractively presented, the children will continually be adding worthwhile work to their dossier. At the end of the school year there will be a memorable record of the best work and this usually highlights the day to day routine of the classroom. From the planning viewpoint, it provides an overview of individual progression and suggests pointers for the following year.

It might seem a paradox, but the development of creative writing in children involves a lot of hard work on the part of the teacher. Yet hard work, invested in the primary school, will develop children's ability in the art of creative writing, and give them both the skills and enthusiasm to be more adventurous as they move into secondary school.

David Bell teaches at Outherton Primary School, Glasgow. He has written a book, *Supporting the Creative Writer*, published by the NFER-Nelson.

First great flowerings

Old English Literature. By Michael Alexander £14.00 and £3.95.
English Gothic Literature. By Derek Brewer £14.00 and £4.95.
Macmillan History of Literature

The 12 volumes of the Macmillan History of Literature, nearly all of which have now been published, offer to guide the reader who wishes to explore the great wealth of writing in English more fully "and to gain in the process deeper insights into the rich diversity not only of literature but of human life itself": so writes Norman Jaffares, their general editor. And earlier, in his disarmingly brief preface, he has stressed the need for a knowledge of contexts as well as texts.

The later English volumes of this series allows one volume per century. By contrast these two volumes "cover" 1,000 years between them, in a total of 550 pages: which might suggest that either the texts or the contexts, or indeed both, must receive unduly cursory treatment. In fact Michael

Alexander seems hard pressed to fill his volume; whereas Douglas Brewer has felt compelled to deal "in detail (with only) a relatively few outstanding or exemplary texts". For what these volumes confirm is the comparative paucity, until the latter half of the fourteenth century, of significant literature in England compared to the fabulous riches of European literature: when of a sudden English literature bursts forth in a breathtaking and resplendent variety and quality. It is a pity that Professor Brewer's account of the "context" offers rather few clues to this first great flowering of English literature; or that in both volumes there is little attempt to account for the comparative meagreness of pre-Chaucerian literature. Here if anywhere would be the test of the editor's claims about the relationship between texts and contexts.

But that said, let it immediately be added that Derek Brewer is the ideal guide to what he has christened En-

continued

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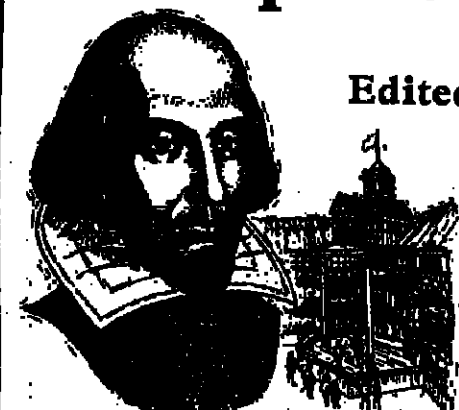
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Fourth-year English at the West Halls Centre, Edinburgh.

Fruitful idea

Writing In Society
by Raymond Williams.
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Raymond Williams begins this book by quoting the old Punch joke noted long ago by George Orwell, in which a socialist undergraduate tells his aunt disdainfully that "one doesn't write about anything, one just writes". Williams claims that "in modern industrialized societies writing has been in effect naturalized".

The venture of "taking strange" the act of writing, to show that writing is a social and cultural activity, and that the various sorts and functions of

society in which it has been practised, to remind us also that much of what we now receive as "writing" was in another mode, seems a fruitful idea. So does another idea he mentions here, which is that the skills we use in assessing texts can be used - despite dismayed claims by Williams' own colleagues that he is deserting literature for "sociology" - to "read" society.

This book, however, seems, despite its range and intelligence, to provide only a partial illumination. As you read, you feel like someone fumbling his way through a barrel of sawdust encountering the occasional grape. One reason for this is Williams' sloppier productivity. He seems to be engaged in a dogged attempt to cover the universe with writing, in fact to be the nearest thing we have to a Jean-Paul Sartre. For someone who has staked all on challenging, radical instances he is no longer enough at odds with his time to glimpse the possibilities of writing as a liberating activity. Williams' book is a

disappointment. It is a book that is not worth reading.

on Hippolytus and Phaedra, on the dialogue and Monologue, on the changing prose of the English novel, on forms of English fiction, on class and region and David Hume, on *Hard Times* and Robert Trenchard's philanthropy. Finally he writes on the crisis in English Studies, and here the direct institutional pressure leads to frustrated aggression, a flicker of impatience, intelligence. Here again, though, you can glimpse something of where he has gone wrong. In analysing the resistance to commercialism or capitalism in the name of the "open struggle" cultural history, he goes on to talk of the downfall of the old minority culture idea, which began to crumble under the weight of what he calls the new world of "the open struggle" classes, and of the fierce priorities of industrial capitalism. Here a glimpse of satisfaction, momentary but revealing, is apparent.

Edward Bellamy

First great flowerings

glush Gothic literature, a term which he justifies in these words:

There is a strong growth in the concept of the individual as set against the archaic collective social group. Notions of religious and secular love take on special configurations... Medieval rhetoric, also, though bookish, is more closely related to natural speech, to the devices of folk-tale and traditional narrative, than it is to print-culture. Folk tradition is important, as well as the learned tradition. This historical amalgam is not unreasonably summed up as 'Gothic'.

The tone in which Derek Brewer discusses this breadth of material is often comically matter-of-fact: Gaiman 'decapitates the Green Knight, unfortunately causing him no inconvenience'; or 'England is, as usual, in a mess', introducing his account of *Piers Plowman*. And for the most part he tends to leave the poetry to make its own impact. But he is always sensitive as well as informed about the nature of the verse, as when he comments on the 'moral approbation' which is conveyed by the description of the Green Knight's cloak as *pure*, 'made pure', 'refined'.

In such usages the poet re-creates, or creates anew, an 'archaic' wholeness of observer and object, combining without confusion the material aspect of what is seen with the moral and spiritual appreciation of the observer.

Or I cannot imagine a clearer and yet unredemptive account of what *Piers Plowman*, in its successive stages, is about. The treatment of Chaucer is

inevitably too brief, but always he resists, as in his discussion of *Troilus*, the tendency to fragment, by modernistic analysis, and to distort, the Gothic and archaic wholeness of Chaucer's vision. The distinctive feature of Chaucer's vision is that its 'wholeness' embraced both the archaic and the modern, especially the arithmetical and quantitative as well as the psychological concerns of the modern mind. If, at the end, Chaucer's own Gothic disposition enables him both to emphasize the narrowness of the 'archaic religious totality and unity' to which Chaucer finally returned, and also to appreciate the degree to which

it was unified and sacred, as the modern can never be, and Chaucer's spiritual insight, historically conditioned as we all must be, was probably just.

Michael Alexander's task is the opposite of Derek Brewer's. Large tracts of Anglo-Saxon literature have not survived, and those that have are not only of very mixed quality but they have mostly survived without a 'context'. In particular, as Michael Alexander candidly admits at the outset: Old English poetry has very little history... We do not know when most Old English poems were composed, nor where, nor by whom... the shortage of poems comparable with *Beowulf* is limiting... Bede and Aldhelm were noted poets in their own right, but of their work only five lines of Bede survive. Writing for readers who almost certainly know neither the language nor the literature, Michael Alexander rightly provides a most generous amount of quotation, both in verse and prose. For the most part he contents



himself with telling the reader what it is about, without spending time on categorizing, for example, type-scenes and tale-types, 'an approach (that) has become so abstract, dry and arbitrary as to exclude the interest and response proper to literature'. But nor does he offer sufficient guidance about the response that is 'proper' to Anglo-Saxon literature: so as to estimate, for instance, the validity of the claim in *Beowulf* that the bard (whom he likens

Far reaching benefits

An alternative syllabus in A level English literature described by Jack Hydes

Great Cornard Upper is a large rural comprehensive with an academically varied population. English Literature has always been a popular A level option with sufficient candidates to require two sets in each year of the sixth form. However, about five years ago several aspects of the A level work began to worry me:

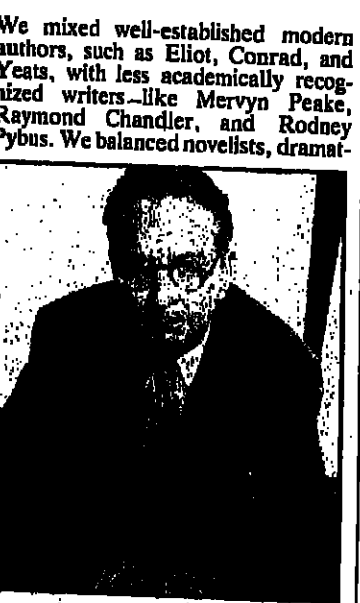
- Pupils showed reluctance to read texts which were not actually prescribed for A level. The main reason was that they preferred to spend their time on those subjects which they were more apparently covering actual syllabus prescriptions.
- In consequence, teachers were spending two years on the very narrow range of prescribed texts. This produced some very bad teaching practice. One young teacher, transcribing, was reading aloud through the whole of Lawrence's *The Rainbow*, commenting as he went. Not surprisingly pupils were beginning to yawn at the idea of their next English lesson.
- In a department of several English specialists there was a lot of demand from the teachers for A level work. The traditional division of each set to two teachers meant that teachers taught only alternate years of sixth-formers.
- I have always felt that some living authors and recent books should be included in the study of literature. Yet the twentieth century paper set for A level dwells almost entirely on authors who are, in the eyes of the pupil, as remote from his day as a writer from the eighteenth century.
- The final blow came with what I personally regarded as a particularly poor choice of texts on the twentieth century paper one year. I remember, with especial despondency the choice of Lawrence's *Three Novellas*. The possibility of devising our own syllabus, at least in part, offered by the Cambridge Board proved an incred-

ibly liberating answer. And the spin-off effects far surpassed my most optimistic expectations, enthusiastic as I was at the outset.

The Shakespeare paper which we had always chosen in any case became compulsory. The Board required this as it supplies a norm for schools offering alternative syllabuses. The whole department had always been in agreement that it would be a travesty to willfully omit our greatest author from A Level Literature. The paper on Critical Comment and Appreciation also became compulsory. Strangely enough I welcomed this at the time, since the department had always been divided on the desirability of this paper. However, there is a slight difference between this paper and that which is set as an option on the traditional syllabus; the candidate has the opportunity on the 'roundabout' answer half the questions on set texts. This allayed the fears of some colleagues who did not want to commit their students to a paper full of unseen passages.

Then there was the paper we could design for ourselves. First of all we made it a paper to be assessed by course work. This brought it into line with recent ideas and personal belief about the teaching of literature. Second, having decided to make it a twentieth century paper, every member of the department was asked to nominate authors and texts which he particularly desired to teach. It is worth describing in some detail the workings of this paper.

To allow for the possible effects of change of staff on what could include highly personalized selections, we agreed that no text could go on the syllabus unless there was a second teacher to the nomination. Secondly a text did not mean that one necessarily would have to teach it; although in fact many texts have had two teachers by choice.



Raymond Chandler... less academically recognized

ists, and poets. We agreed that the whole of the paper would be taught only in the first year of the sixth form, and that every teacher would teach both groups.

Certain problems had to be overcome. Each group was allocated an 'anchor' teacher who taught the group half of their timetabled lessons, ensuring an administrative continuity. The other half of the lessons were blocked against the free periods of the English department or against the rest of the department to teach their sixth form lessons on a 'roundabout' system, but ensured that other classes were always taught their English lessons by a specialist English teacher. Fortunately the school has a very able and sympathetic timetable, who enjoys such creative approaches to a task.

Each English teacher was then asked how many lessons he required for each text. We estimated that students should be able to read novels at an average rate of 100 pages a week, and decided that no more than two novels should be taught concurrently. This estimate has turned out to be reasonable. The number of texts taught to a group in a year (in fact, two and a half terms) varies between 12 and 21. Of these, the student has to

produce essays on a minimum of 10 - the best four of which will count towards his grade for the paper.

The student is then required to choose a novelist and either a poet or dramatist from the syllabus, on each of whom a long essay of about 3,000 words is required. The teaching for this part of the paper is arranged individually on a tutorial basis. These long essays are usually handled very well indeed. For instance, last year one girl was inspired to read eleven plays by Ibsen for her study of a dramatist; while another read five novels by William Golding. The minimum requirement is that a student read one further novel or play by all authors, apart from the one taught originally.

Clearly, this syllabus has relieved the problems I had experienced with our A level work. The students now read widely in their first year; they produce work of a high standard; and they develop a sense of choice and independence towards their work. As their work. As the two major essays carry 60 per cent of the marks for the paper, the student is able to put his efforts into the study of authors he finds congenial - on an informed basis. The pupil can discount essays in which he has performed below his best.

Teachers no longer 'over-teach' texts. The same teacher who had spent the best part of a term on *The Rainbow* taught another long novel by Lawrence. In seven one-hour sessions... and with better effect. Indeed, everybody in the department seems to have benefited from this teaching. The focus of their teaching has become clear.

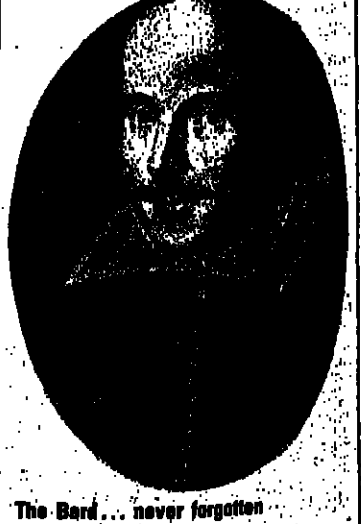
Because everybody has to know in advance when he will be teaching into the sixth form, the whole programme for this year is worked out in detail. I believe that it is the most detailed published teaching programme I have seen in a school; students and teachers have an explicit schedule in September which takes them through to the following June. (We do leave one or two blank dates in each term to cope with any unforeseen problems, but the very fact that we have so much notice of what we will be doing means that we get less problems than we used to.)

For new teachers it offers immediate level work on the authors they feel best prepared to teach. If a teacher has any problems it will not disastrously affect the pupil; if the teacher is outstandingly successful that pupil will benefit - such are the advantages of teaching a wide range of texts and allowing for selection in the submission of essays. What is more, the opportunity of free choice of texts is an



Mervyn Peake sketching in a hotel, German town, 1945

additional attraction when it comes to appointing new teachers. It may be coincidence, but the fact is that we have had very strong fields of applicants since we began this system.



The Bard... never forgotten

Finally, because of the need for accurate assessment, many essays are double-marked, including all long ones. A sample is photocopied and discussed in detail at regular meetings throughout the year. This keeps the department sharp on assessment criteria, offers valuable in-service training to us all, and has created a very cohesive team spirit.

The effects of changing to our own syllabus have been of far-reaching benefit. Far from creating chaos, teacher autonomy in the matter has led to better organization, better sense of direction, and much more fun.

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12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 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1856, 1858, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1868, 1870, 1872, 1874, 1876, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1884, 1886, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1900, 1902, 1904, 1906, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1940, 1942, 1944, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028, 2030, 2032, 2034, 2036, 2038, 2040, 2042, 2044, 2046, 2048, 2050, 2052, 2054, 2056, 2058, 2060, 2062, 2064, 2066, 2068, 2070, 2072, 2074, 2076, 2078, 2080, 2082, 2084, 2086, 2088, 2090, 2092, 2094, 2096, 2098, 2100, 2102, 2104, 2106, 2108, 2110, 2112, 2114, 2116, 2118, 2120, 2122, 2124, 2126, 2128, 2130, 2132, 2134, 2136, 2138, 2140, 2142, 2144, 2146, 2148, 2150, 2152, 2154, 2156, 2158, 2160, 2162, 2164, 2166, 2168, 2170, 2172, 2174, 2176, 2178, 2180, 2182, 2184, 2186, 2188, 2190, 2192, 2194, 2196, 2198, 2200, 2202, 2204, 2206, 2208, 2210, 2212, 2214, 2216, 2218, 2220, 2222, 2224, 2226, 2228, 2230, 2232, 2234, 2236, 2238, 2240, 2242, 2244, 2246, 2248, 2250, 2252, 2254, 2256, 2258, 2260, 2262, 2264, 2266, 2268, 2270, 2272, 2274, 2276, 2278, 2280, 2282, 2284, 2286, 2288, 2290, 2292, 2294, 2296, 2298, 2300, 2302, 2304, 2306, 2308, 2310, 2312, 2314, 2316, 2318, 2320, 2322, 2324, 2326, 2328, 2330, 2332, 2334, 2336, 2338, 2340, 2342, 2344, 2346, 2348, 2350, 2352, 2354, 2356, 2358, 2360, 2362, 2364, 2366, 2368, 2370, 2372, 2374, 2376, 2378, 2380, 2382, 2384, 2386, 2388, 2390, 2392, 2394, 2396, 2398, 2400, 2402, 2404, 2406, 2408, 2410, 2412, 2414, 2416, 2418, 2420, 2422, 2424, 2426, 2428, 2430, 2432, 2434, 2436, 2438, 2440, 2442, 2444, 2446, 2448, 2450, 2452, 2454, 2456, 2458, 2460, 2462, 2464, 2466, 2468, 2470, 2472, 2474, 2476, 2478, 2480, 2482, 2484, 2486, 2488, 2490, 2492, 2494, 2496, 2498, 2500, 2502, 2504, 2506, 2508, 2510, 2512, 2514, 2516, 2518, 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3848, 3850, 3852, 3854, 3856, 3858, 3860, 3862, 3864, 3866, 3868, 3870, 3872, 3874, 3876, 3878, 3880, 3882, 3884, 3886, 3888, 3890, 3892, 3894, 3896, 3898, 3900, 3902, 3904, 3906, 3908, 3910, 3912, 3914, 3916, 3918, 3920, 3922, 3924, 3926, 3928, 3930, 3932, 3934, 3936, 3938, 3940, 3942, 3944, 3946, 3948, 3950, 3952, 3954, 3956, 3958, 3960, 3962, 3964, 3966, 3968, 3970, 3972, 3974, 3976, 3978, 3980, 3982, 3984, 3986, 3988, 3990, 3992, 3994, 3996, 3998,

**States Education
Council**

**QUALIFIED
TEACHER OF THE
DEAF**
Required with effect from
September, 1984. Applicants
should be committed auralists
and have had experience
either in a Secondary unit or in
peripatetic capacity across
the entire age range. A work

Please apply to The Director of Education, Education Department, P.O. Box No. 32, La Coudreterie, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, C.I. 16-2

AMPSHIRE
REN CROFT SCHOOL
 10000 S. 10th Street, Ash,
 Hampshire, GU14 8BX
 U.K. 87
 2 post
 Teacher required with
 responsibility for PE and
 required for September 19
 Closing date 18th May 19
 For application form and
 details from the Head Teach
 receipt of a.s.e. 701295
 160

LARINGEY
 progress with Humanity
THE VALE PH SCHOOL
 Vale Road, London N4 1PC
 Tel: 01-800-07721
 2 post
SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT
 313
 as soon as possi
 suitably qualified and

regeneration scheme at primary and secondary level. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and development of the intervention scheme and act as a resource for those working with the target needs children in the target schools. Experience of both special and mainstream schools is essential.

Prospective applicants are welcome to visit the schools and see the project directly. Applications should be submitted in approved cases to:

London Allowance 121

Forms of application available from:

Chief Education Officer
Education Offices 48-52
St. James's Place, London
SW1A 2BJ. Closing
date 28.5.87

Salary may be an equal opportunity employer. (0106) 1a

HARROW

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WHITELEES SCHOOL

Whitelees Road, Harrow
Middlesex HA1 2BN
Tel. 0456 9968

Required for September

Ability to provide a life experience based educational environment as well as

essential. The best of reasons for this is that the mature teacher who by qualification, experience and achievement has made a significant contribution to the school in one of the following fields: 1. Mathematics 2. Music and 3. Social Involvement into any setting of ordinary life.

Clearly inductive in your letter of application which you can develop best when you write to the Headmaster of Whitless School is a well educated, intelligent, experienced and nearly 30 year old man.

Application forms from you to be returned to the Teacher by Monday 14th November 1967. The letter should be addressed envelope to the Teacher.

BARROW IS AN
OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT
(02435) 10

children
functional needs

(one post at Scale 4, five posts at Scale 3)

These posts, one for each area of the County, have been established to make provision for pre-school children in response to the Education Act 1981. The successful applicants will be expected to contribute significantly to pre-school provision, involving work with parents as well as with children, and to the support of other agencies concerned. Successful nurses should have infant teaching experience in mainstream and special schools essential - an advanced qualification in relation to special educational needs an advantage. The Scale 4 postholder will additionally be responsible for co-ordinating the work of the team.

Posts available as from September 1984.

Removal and disturbance allowance scheme in operation.

Please send SAE for job description in application form to: County Education Officer, Box 47, Threadneedle House, Market Road, Chelmsford CM1 1LD.

Closing date 14th May 1984.

 **ESSEX**
County Council

(one post at Scale 4, five posts at Scale 3)

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Closing date 14th May 1984.

 **ESSEX**
County Council

SPECIAL EDUCATION

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following posts:

BEECH HILL S.E.N. (M)
Fairfield Drive,
Mansfield, NG19
6DX

Headmaster: T.E. Walker
Mixed: 112 (Secondary)
For September, enthusiastic teacher (scale 1 plus 5.5.9.) for a class of approximately twelve children aged 13-14 years with moderate learning difficulties. An ability to initiate and develop the repair and maintenance of the mechanical aspects of D.V.Y. and other practical life skills for part of the teaching commitment is essential.

Application forms available (s.e.g.) from the school (05242) 160022

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following posts:

ANNIE HOLGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL, PARTIALLY
High Lane Road, Hucknall,
Nottingham NG15 6EZ

Headmaster: H.F. V.
Robinson
Roll: 350

For September, experienced or newly qualified teacher of the deaf (also hearing impaired) class. Allowance to take responsibility for a small group of hearing impaired children. Successful candidate will share the school's philosophy of integration and be prepared to join an established team working with hearing impaired children.

Scale 5 post available for suitably experienced candidate.

Please apply by letter, giving details of experience, to the Headmaster, 160022

OLDHAM
METROPOLITAN

PARK DEAN SCHOOL
St. Martin's Road, Oldham
SCALE 1 (S) TEACHER

Required for September 1984, for a class of approximately 12 pupils of whom have a visual handicap.

The ability to assist with academic and social computer assisted learning would be an advantage.

Application forms/further details (s.e.g.) from the Head at the school returnable to him by 15th May 1984. (01335) 160022

REDBRIDGE
LONDON BOROUGH OF

LITTLE HEATH SCHOOL
Malmesbury Road, Little Heath, Redford RM5 5RX

Tel: 599 4864

Headteacher: Mr. R.K.

Required for September 1984, suitably qualified teacher (scale 1 plus 5.5.9.) for a mixed school of 130 children with learning difficulties.

Candidate should be committed to new approaches to special education and the lines of the 1981 Education Act.

Outer London Allowance is payable.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Headteacher, to whom completed forms should be returned by 14 May 1984. (01875) 160022

SHROPSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

BRIDGNORTH & SOUTH SHROPSHIRE EDUCATION

LECTURER GRADE II

Special Needs Provision

See Colleges of Further Education Teacher Appointments (05099)

STOCKPORT

Required for September 1984, suitably qualified teacher (scale 1 plus 5.5.9.) for a mixed school of 130 children with learning difficulties.

Candidate should be committed to new approaches to special education and the lines of the 1981 Education Act.

Outer London Allowance is payable.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Headteacher, to whom completed forms should be returned by 14 May 1984. (01875) 160022

SOMERSET

Required for September 1984, suitably qualified teacher (scale 1 plus 5.5.9.) for a mixed school of 130 children with learning difficulties.

Candidate should be committed to new approaches to special education and the lines of the 1981 Education Act.

Outer London Allowance is payable.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Headteacher, to whom completed forms should be returned by 14 May 1984. (01875) 160022

SURREY

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

SUNNYDOWN BOYS SCHOOL

Caterham

Assistant teacher required from September 1984 at this residential school for boys with special needs. Mainly hearing impaired, but also physical and learning difficulties. Experience of teaching in a residential school is essential.

Apply to the Headmaster, Sunnydown Boys School, Caterham, Surrey, GU24 0JH. (01883) 160022

SURREY

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

Reigate

Qualified teacher of the deaf (scale 1 plus 5.5.9.) for a class of approximately 12 pupils of whom have a hearing impairment.

Apply to the Headmaster, St. John's School, Reigate, Surrey, GU24 0JH. (01883) 160022

SURREY

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NUTFIELD PRIORY SCHOOL

Nutfield

Assistant teacher required from September 1984 at this residential school for boys with special needs. Mainly hearing impaired, but also physical and learning difficulties. Experience of teaching in a residential school is essential.

Apply to the Headmaster, Nutfield Priory School, Nutfield, Surrey, GU24 0JH. (01883) 160022

SUSSEX

GREAT SANDERS

Sandwich

Vacancies exist for the commencement of the Autumn Term for Assistant Teachers able to offer Mathematics, 2 Science and English to a class of 12 to 15 children.

Apply to the Headmaster, Great Sanders, Sandwich, Kent, ME8 5JH. (01794) 160022

WALTHAM FOREST

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WALTHAM FOREST SCHOOL

Waltham

Assistant teacher required from September 1984 at this residential school for boys with special needs. Mainly hearing impaired, but also physical and learning difficulties. Experience of teaching in a residential school is essential.

Apply to the Headmaster, Waltham Forest School, Waltham, Essex, SS11 1JH. (02011) 160022

WEST SUSSEX

JOHN HORNIMAN SCHOOL

Horsham

Assistant teacher required from September 1984 at this residential school for boys with special needs. Mainly hearing impaired, but also physical and learning difficulties. Experience of teaching in a residential school is essential.

Apply to the Headmaster, John Horniman School, Horsham, West Sussex, BN11 1JH. (01323) 160022

WILTSHIRE

ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL

Salisbury

Assistant teacher required from September 1984 at this residential school for boys with special needs. Mainly hearing impaired, but also physical and learning difficulties. Experience of teaching in a residential school is essential.

Apply to the Headmaster, St. Luke's School, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP2 8JH. (01264) 160022

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Required for September 1984, suitably qualified teacher (scale 1 plus 5.5.9.) for a mixed school of 130 children with learning difficulties.

Candidate should be committed to new approaches to special education and the lines of the 1981 Education Act.

Outer London Allowance is payable.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Headteacher, to whom completed forms should be returned by 14 May 1984. (01875) 160022

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WATFORD SCHOOL

Watford

Assistant teacher required from September 1984 at this residential school for boys with special needs. Mainly hearing impaired, but also physical and learning difficulties. Experience of teaching in a residential school is essential.

Apply to the Headmaster, Watford School, Watford, Bucks, WD17 1JH. (0494) 160022

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

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Apply to the Headmaster, Watford School, Watford, Bucks, WD17 1JH. (0494) 160022

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

WATFORD SCHOOL

Watford

THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL
WORCESTER

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

The School Council invites applications for the post of Head which will become vacant on 1st January 1986, on the retirement of the present Headmistress, Miss E. D. Millett, MA (Oxon), Dip. Theo.

This is an Independent Girls' Day and Boarding School, founded in 1883, for about 600 pupils aged 4-18, including 80 boarders from the age of 8.

Closing date for applications is 14th July, 1984.

Particulars of the appointment can be obtained from:

The Secretary to the Council
The Alice Ottley School
The Tything, Worcester WR1 1RW

Further details of the post, including the school's curriculum, can be obtained from the Headmistress, Miss E. D. Millett, MA (Oxon), Dip. Theo.

Applications should be made to the Headmistress, Miss E. D. Millett, MA (Oxon), Dip. Theo.

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NORWICH

Physicist
NRA 2000, Market Road, Norw
Physicist
Required for September 1
A Physicist to join a strong
expanding, well equipped
firm to contribute to the
the teaching of Electron
Physics Group. Creative and
tive work is in progress. I
ary Sate 1 or according
qualifications and experie
plus Government Superannat
tion.
Applications by letter
please inc forms to
Mr. J. H. H. H. H. H. H.
s.a.c. and the names, add
ses and telephone number
qualifications and experie
9th May 1984. #32585184

**SCHOOL OF S. HELEN
AND S. KATHARINE**
Abingdon OX14 1BE

(Independent C. of F.)
(for girls) direct entry from age
of 500 girls; 140 in 6th
(form)

Required September
good honours graduate
share in the teaching
of mathematics at advanced
level and Cambridge level
etc. Ability to help will
be coming an advantage.

Strongest science and
mathematics department
in the catchment area
near Harwell, J. J.
Gulham and Oxford U.
iversity.

SURVEY
PIERREFONT SCHOOL
Required for September 1981, a graduate to teach chemistry. Some with formal training available. Subsidiary Physics, Mathematics or Computer Science would be valuable. Post would suit a graduate teacher with plenty of opportunity for involvement in extracurricular activities. Total side of boarding school life. Spole accommodation.

Scale 1.
 Applications, with curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, to the Headmaster, Pinner School, Pinner, Middx. (01971) 164

SURREY

BOX HILL SCHOOL
 Mickleham, Dorking, Surrey
 Co-ed school run on
 Gourdountoun lines
 REQUIRED September
 resident or non-res
 teacher of BIOLOGY
 and PLANT MATTER to O

General Science to C.
GENERAL SCIENCES R.
MATHEMATICS Ruby,
puters and/or Assist
Housemaster. Interests
be an advantage. Bur
State State Supernatural
activities should
Apply if interested.
two referees. 7011721 18

an enthusiastic teacher. Physics is shared the course of Physics throughout the school to O' level and level. Small classes and well equipped laboratory. Faculty also teach the Bridge O' level Physics. Chemistry syllabus is for non-resident. Resolutions in writing. Lady Margaret S. Michael's ton Park, between Sussex and O' level of Curriculum vitae and addresses of three. Please our school need not re-apply, they are considered automatically. (55595) 18

College
School
don SW19
September 1984
or
ary 1985

**GRADUATE
CHEMIST**
Under Science. (4352)

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

Required in September 1984 or January 1985, to be responsible for a large department in a girls' boarding school with strong musical traditions. Applicants should be well qualified musicians with good teaching and performing experience.

Applications with curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees to:

**The Headmaster
Westonbirt School
Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8QG**

from whom further details are available.

THE

HEAD of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This post becomes vacant on the retirement of the present Head of Department.

Applications in writing, together with full curriculum vitae, names, addresses and telephone numbers, of two referees should be made to the Headmaster, from whom further details may be obtained.

1975/76

(408)

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 277, 1996, 1033-1036.

For details see under Science.
